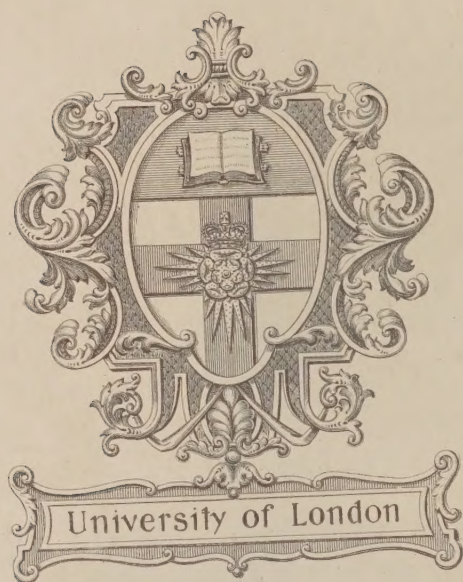
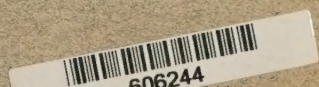
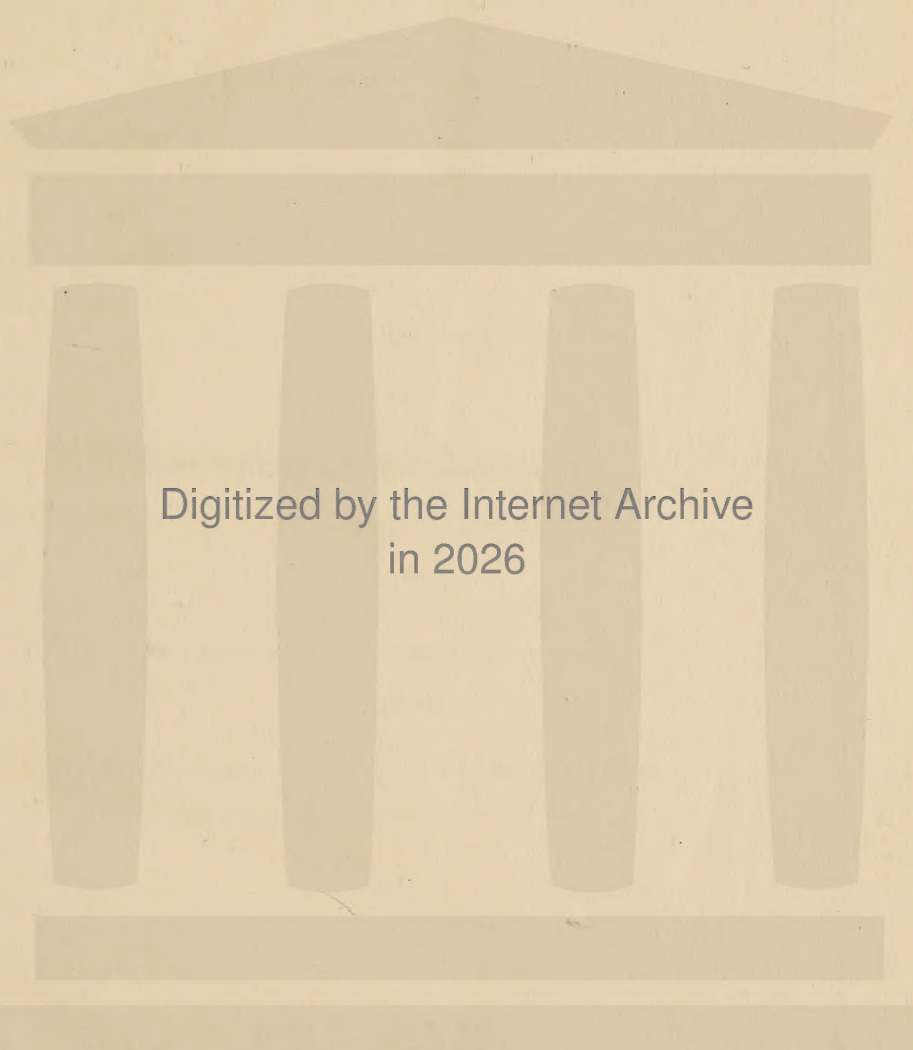








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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

THIRTY-TWO VOLUMES.

—(31.)—

STATE PAPERS—*continued.*

BELGIUM—ZOLLVEREIN.

Session

10 December 1868 — 11 August 1869.

VOL. LXIV.

1868-9.



ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1868-9.

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CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

KING OF THE BELGIANS

FOR THE

ESTABLISHMENT

OF A

SYSTEM OF POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND BELGIUM.

Signed at London, May 31, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians
for the Establishment of a System of Post Office Money
Orders between Great Britain and Belgium.

Signed at London, May 31, 1869.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, June 21, 1869.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, being desirous that sums of money may be exchanged between their respective subjects by means of post office orders, have resolved to attain that object by a Convention, and have for that purpose named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable George William Frederick, Earl of Clarendon, Baron Hyde of Hindon, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs ; and the Right Honourable Spencer Compton Cavendish (commonly called Marquis of Hartington), a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, Her Postmaster-General ;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Baron Alcindor Beaulieu, Grand Officer of his Order of Leopold, decorated with the Commemorative Cross, Grand Cordon of the Order of Dannebrog, Grand Cross of the Order of the Polar Star, Grand Cordon of the Orders of Philip the Magnanimous, of Adolphus of Nassau, of Frederick, of the Lion of Zähringen, and of St. Michael, Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown of the Vandals, Grand Commander of the Order of Merit of Oldenburg, Commander of the Orders of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, and of St. Benedict of Aviz, Knight of the Order of the Red Eagle of the 3rd Class, &c., &c., His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty ;

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, désirant que des sommes d'argent puissent être échangées au moyen de mandats-poste entre leurs nationaux respectifs, ont résolu d'assurer ce résultat par une Convention, et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires à cet effet, savoir :

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable George Guillaume Frédéric Comte de Clarendon, Baron Hyde de Hindon, Pair du Royaume Uni, Conseiller de Sa Majesté Britannique en son Conseil Privé, Chevalier du Très Noble Ordre de la Jarretière, Chevalier Grand-Croix du Très Honorable Ordre du Bain, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté pour les Affaires Etrangères ; et le Très Honorable Spencer Compton Cavendish, Marquis de Hartington, Conseiller de Sa Majesté Britannique en son Conseil Privé, Membre du Parlement, Maître-Général des Postes ;

Et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, le Baron Alcindor Beaulieu, Grand Officier de Son Ordre de Léopold, décoré de la Croix Commémorative, Grand Cordon de l'Ordre de Dannebrog, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de l'Etoile Polaire, Grand Cordon des Ordres de Philippe le Magnanime, d'Adolphe de Nassau, de Frédéric, du Lion de Zähringen, et de Saint Michel, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de la Couronne des Vandales, Grand Commandeur de l'Ordre du Mérite d'Oldenburg, Commandeur des Ordres de la Branche Ernestine de Saxe, et de Saint Benoit d'Aviz, Chevalier de l'Ordre de l'Aigle Rouge de 3e Classe, &c., &c., Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plenipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Belgium, a regular exchange of Post Office money orders.

The maximum of each order is fixed at ten pounds sterling when issued in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and at two hundred and fifty-one francs fifty centimes when issued in Belgium.

On such orders the following rates of Commission shall be collected :—

In the United Kingdom :

For any sum not exceeding two pounds sterling, a rate of three pence ;

For any sum above two pounds, but not exceeding five pounds sterling, a rate of six pence ;

For any sum above five pounds, but not exceeding seven pounds sterling, a rate of nine pence ;

For any sum above seven pounds, but not exceeding ten pounds sterling, a rate of one shilling.

In Belgium :

For any sum not exceeding one hundred francs, a rate of fifty centimes ;

For any sum above one hundred francs, but not exceeding two hundred francs, a rate of one franc ;

For every sum above two hundred francs, but not exceeding two hundred and fifty one francs fifty centimes, a rate of one franc thirty centimes.

These rates shall always be paid in advance, and shall not be repayable in any case.

ARTICLE II.

The total amount of the rates of Commission collected in virtue of the preceding Article shall be equally divided between the Post Offices of the two countries.

ARTICLE III.

It is agreed that in all matters of account relative to Post Office money orders, which shall result from the execution of the present Convention, the pound sterling of Great Britain shall be considered as the equivalent of twenty-five francs fifteen centimes of Belgian money.

The two Offices are, however, authorized to fix by common agreement another rate of conversion, or to suspend temporarily the

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivants :—

ARTICLE I.

Il y aura entre le Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande et la Belgique, un échange régulier de mandats-poste.

Le maximum de chaque mandat est fixé à dix livres sterling, lorsqu'il est émis dans le Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et à deux cent cinquante-un francs cinquante centimes lorsqu'il est émis en Belgique.

Sur ces mandats il sera perçu les taxes suivantes :—

Dans le Royaume Uni :

Pour toute somme n'excédant pas deux livres sterling, une taxe de trois pence ;

Pour toute somme de plus de deux livres, mais n'excédant pas cinq livres sterling, une taxe de six pence ;

Pour toute somme de plus de cinq livres, mais n'excédant pas sept livres sterling, une taxe de neuf pence ;

Pour toute somme de plus de sept livres, mais n'excédant pas dix livres sterling, une taxe d'un shelling.

En Belgique :

Pour toute somme n'excédant pas cent francs, une taxe de cinquante centimes ;

Pour toute somme de plus de cent francs, mais n'excédant pas deux cents francs, une taxe d'un franc ;

Pour toute somme de plus de deux cents francs, mais n'excédant pas deux cent cinquante-un francs cinquante centimes, une taxe d'un franc trente centimes.

Ces taxes devront toujours être acquittées d'avance, et ne seront remboursables dans aucun cas.

ARTICLE II.

Le produit des taxes perçues en vertu de l'Article précédent sera partagé par moitié entre les Administrations des Postes des deux pays.

ARTICLE III.

Il est convenu que dans toutes les opérations de comptabilité relatives aux mandats-poste, qui résulteront de l'exécution de la présente Convention, la livre sterling de la Grande Bretagne sera considérée comme l'équivalent de vingt-cinq francs quinze centimes, monnaie de Belgique.

Cependant les deux Administrations sont autorisées à fixer d'un commun accord un autre taux de réduction, ou à supprimer

exchange of Post Office orders between the two countries, in case the course of exchange or any other circumstance should give rise to abuses to the injury of the Post Office revenue.

ARTICLE IV.

When the conversion of the respective currencies according to the rate prescribed by Article III preceding, shall produce fractions of ten centimes or of a penny, such fractions shall be disregarded.

ARTICLE V.

Each of the two Offices shall prepare at the end of each month a detailed account specifying the orders issued by the other Office which it shall have paid, as well as the amount of the rates of commission to be carried to its credit, for all the orders issued by the corresponding Office during the past month.

Those accounts, accompanied by the paid orders, shall be examined and checked by the respective Offices, and shall serve to establish afterwards the ultimate balance, which shall be paid within the time and in the manner to be determined by common agreement between the two Offices.

ARTICLE VI.

The Post Offices of the United Kingdom and of Belgium shall determine by common agreement the measures of detail necessary for the execution of the present Convention, especially concerning:

1. The form, the manner of issue, of exchange, and of payment of orders.
2. The period after which orders will become void.
3. The form of the accounts mentioned in Article V preceding.

ARTICLE VII.

The present Convention shall come into operation from and after a day to be agreed upon between the two parties. It shall continue in force from three months to three months, until either of the Contracting Parties shall have notified to the other, at least three months beforehand, its intention to terminate it.

During these last three months the Convention shall continue to be executed, without prejudice to the settlement and payment of the accounts after the expiration of that term.

temporairement l'échange des mandats-poste entre les deux pays, dans le cas où le cours de change ou quelque autre circonstance pourrait donner lieu à des abus au détriment du revenu postal.

ARTICLE IV.

Lorsque la conversion des monnaies d'après la base déterminée à l'Article III précédent fera ressortir des fractions de dix centimes ou d'un penny, ces fractions pourront être négligées.

ARTICLE V.

Chacune des deux Administrations dressera à la fin de chaque mois, un compte particulier mentionnant les mandats émanant de l'autre Administration dont elle aura effectué le paiement, ainsi que le montant des taxes à porter à son crédit pour tous les mandats émis par l'office correspondant pendant le mois révolu.

Ces comptes, accompagnés des mandats acquittés, seront soumis à la vérification des offices respectifs, et serviront à établir ensuite le décompte définitif, qui sera soldé dans le délai et suivant le mode à déterminer de commun accord par les deux Administrations.

ARTICLE VI.

Les Administrations des Postes du Royaume Uni et de Belgique arrêteront de commun accord les mesures d'ordre et de détail nécessaires pour l'exécution de la présente Convention, notamment en ce qui concerne :

1. La forme, le mode d'émission, d'échange et de paiement des mandats ;
2. Le délai de prescription des mandats ;
3. La forme des comptes mentionnés à l'Article V précédent.

ARTICLE VII.

La présente Convention sera mise à exécution à partir du jour dont les deux parties conviendront. Elle demeurera obligatoire de trois en trois mois, jusqu'à ce que l'une des deux Parties Contractantes ait fait connaître à l'autre, mais au moins trois mois à l'avance, son intention d'en faire cesser les effets.

Pendant ces derniers trois mois la Convention continuera d'avoir son exécution, sans préjudice de la liquidation et du solde des comptes après l'expiration du dit terme.

ARTICLE VIII.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at London, the thirty-first day of May, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

(L.S.) CLARENDON.
(L.S.) HARTINGTON.
(L.S.) BEAULIEU.

ARTICLE VIII.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres le plus tôt que faire se pourra.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Londres, le trente-et-un Mai, l'an de grâce mil huit cent soixante-neuf.

(L.S.) CLARENDON.
(L.S.) HARTINGTON.
(L.S.) BEAULIEU.

BELGIUM.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King of
the Belgians for the Establishment of a System
of Post Office Money Orders between Great
Britain and Belgium.

Signed at London, May 31, 1869.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[Price 1d.]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CHINA. No. 1. (1869.)

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

RELATIONS

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

4397

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Correspondence respecting the Relations between Great Britain and China.

No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Burlingame.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1868.

I GATHERED, from the conversation which I had the honour to have with you on the 26th instant, that the objects of the Chinese Government in sending a Diplomatic Mission to Europe were twofold; one, that by means of such a Mission the European Powers might be disabused of an impression which it was supposed at Peking that they entertained, that the Chinese Government had entered upon a retrograde policy, and contemplated not only refusal to enlarge their relations with Christian nations, but even restriction within narrower limits of the intercourse which, under Treaty, those nations were now entitled to hold with the Chinese dominions; the other, to deprecate any intention on the part of European Powers to bring to bear on China any amount of unfriendly pressure to induce her rulers to enter precipitately on a new system of policy which would seriously affect her independence.

I understood from you, that the Chinese Government were fully alive to the expediency, or even necessity, for their own interests, of facilitating and encouraging intercourse with foreign nations; that they were sensible of the advantages that would result from a greater assimilation of their rules and practice to those of other nations, and from the adoption of the improvements by which the industry of Europe had been so much developed, and the happiness of its people so much increased; but that with all this they felt that any attempt abruptly to introduce new systems or new ideas among a people whose knowledge of foreign nations was of recent date, and who had been brought up under a traditional system, to which they had been accustomed and were attached, would not only produce confusion and even revolution in the country, but would tend to retard instead of promoting the progress, the necessity for which the Chinese Government fully admitted and were desirous to encourage, though they wished to be allowed to do so by degrees, and without any sudden and violent shock to the feelings, passions, and even prejudices of their people.

Her Majesty's Government, I informed you in reply, fully admitted that the Chinese Government were entitled to count upon the forbearance of foreign nations; and I assured you that, as far as their country was concerned, there was neither a desire nor intention to apply unfriendly pressure to China to induce her Government to advance more rapidly in her intercourse with foreign nations than was consistent with safety, and with due and reasonable regard for the feelings of her subjects.

But Her Majesty's Government, I said, expected from China a faithful observance of the stipulations of existing Treaties, and reserved to themselves the right of employing friendly representations to induce the Chinese Government to advance in the course opened up by those Treaties, and to afford greater facilities and encouragement and protection to the subjects of foreign Powers seeking to extend commercial intercourse with the Chinese people.

Her Majesty's Government feel that they may fairly appeal to the Chinese Government, though always in terms of friendship, to act in this spirit towards themselves and other foreign nations; and they would do so with the more confidence because they may be excused for believing that the interests of China will be advanced in a far greater degree

than those of foreign nations, by steadily availing herself of the opportunities within her reach for applying to her Empire the skill and experience of the nations of Europe.

But Her Majesty's Government are, moreover, entitled to expect from China as an indispensable condition of their goodwill, the fullest amount of protection to British subjects resorting to her dominions. They are aware that the Provincial Governors are too often in the habit of disregarding the rights of foreigners, trusting to impunity as regards the Central Government of Peking, and to the unwillingness of foreign Powers to assert the rights of their subjects by local pressure.

Her Majesty's Government feel that they are acting in the interest of the Chinese Empire, when they announce their preference for an appeal rather to the Central Government than to local authorities for the redress of wrongs done to British subjects. It is with the Central Government and not with the Provincial authorities that foreign Powers have entered into Treaties, and it is for the interest of the Central Government that foreign Powers should recognise its supreme authority over its Provincial Governors, and that the Central Government should assume, and, on all occasions when appealed to for the redress of local wrongs, be prepared to exercise that authority.

These observations will, I trust, enable you to reassure the Government of Peking as to the friendly feelings entertained towards it by the British Government. It rests with the Central Government so to order its intercourse with Great Britain and the Queen's subjects as to avoid cause of difference, and to preserve unimpaired the friendship of this country.

I have only to add, that all Her Majesty's Agents in China have been instructed to act in the spirit and with the objects which I have thus explained to you; and generally to caution British subjects to pay due respect not only to the laws of the Empire, but, as far as may be, to the usages and feelings of the Chinese people.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 30, 1868.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Burlingame,* recording the substance of a conversation which I had held with him on the 26th instant, and stating the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the relations between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire.

Her Majesty's Government wish the policy indicated in this communication to be observed by Her Majesty's Agents in China in their dealings with the Chinese authorities and people, and I have to instruct you to give directions to Her Majesty's Consuls accordingly, and also as to the general caution to be given to British subjects, when occasion may arise, as to their demeanour towards the Chinese; although it may not be necessary that they should issue any express notification on the subject. That point, however, I must leave to your discretion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 30, 1868.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Burlingame,* recording my communication with him, and stating the views of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the objects of his Mission from the Chinese Government.

I have to instruct your Excellency to give a copy of this letter confidentially to M. de Lavalette, the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne having expressed a wish to know the nature of our negotiations with that gentleman.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 4.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thornton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 1, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Burlingame,* recording the substance of a conversation which I held with that gentleman on the 26th ultimo, and stating the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the relations between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 5.

Mr. Hammond to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 1, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter which he has addressed to Mr. Burlingame, the Chinese Envoy,* recording the substance of a conversation which he had held with that gentleman on the 26th ultimo, and stating the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the relations between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire; and I am to request that, in laying the inclosure before Earl Granville, you will suggest to his Lordship that a copy of this letter should be sent to the Governor of Hong Kong, for his information and guidance.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 6.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 4, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter which he has addressed to Mr. Burlingame,* the Chinese Envoy, recording the substance of a conversation which he had held with that gentleman on the 26th ultimo, and stating the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the relations between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire; and I am to request that, in laying the inclosure before the Lords of the Admiralty, you will suggest to their Lordships that a copy of this letter should be sent to Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir H. Keppel for his information and guidance.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 7.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 6.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 5, 1869.

YESTERDAY, in pursuance of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, I gave confidentially to the Marquis de Lavalette a copy of your Lordship's letter of the 28th ultimo to Mr. Burlingame, stating the views of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the objects of his Mission from the Government of China.

M. de Lavalette begged me to convey his thanks to your Lordship, and expressed in general terms the disposition of the Government of the Emperor to act in this, as in other matters, in accordance with Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

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No. 8.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Lord Lyons,* stating that he has communicated to the French Government a copy of the letter to Mr. Burlingame, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 30th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 9.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thornton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Lord Lyons,* stating that he has communicated to the French Government a copy of the letter to Mr. Burlingame, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 1st instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 10.

Mr. Burlingame to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 13.)

My Lord,

Chinese Legation, London, January 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of December, and, in reply, to inform you that I agree to the general accuracy of your deductions from our conversation at that time.

1st. That it was the object of the Mission to disabuse the foreign Powers of an impression they were supposed to entertain, that the Chinese Government had entered upon a retrograde policy; and 2ndly, to deprecate a precipitate and unfriendly attempt on their part to enter upon a policy which might make all progress impossible from its menacing tone and "violent shock to the feelings, and even prejudices of the people."

I have also the honour to express my satisfaction with the reply of your Lordship on the part of Her Majesty's Government: first, that an unfriendly pressure shall not be applied inconsistent with the independence and safety of China; and secondly, that Her Majesty's Government desires to deal directly with the Central Government rather than with the local authorities, and that Her Majesty's Agents in China have been instructed "to act in the spirit of these views, and to caution British subjects to pay due respect not only to the laws of the Empire, but as far as may be to the usages and feelings of the Chinese people."

I agree also with your Lordship as to the importance of the strict observance of existing Treaty stipulations. Agreeing, then, as we do to these principles of action, it is equally gratifying to know that we do not differ as to the manner of their application, particularly as to the exercise of force; that is, that it should be used to protect life and property immediately exposed. These safe, the question becomes diplomatic, to be referred first to Peking, and before war ensues, to the Home Government.

The explicit manner in which your Lordship expressed yourself upon this point, not only in the conversation of the 26th, but in that of to-day, will give great satisfaction to the Chinese Government. This policy, acted upon, will make wars with China impossible, or they will not occur without sufficient cause and only after mature deliberation.

I do not recur in this despatch to other topics of our conversation, but limit myself to a statement of the points agreed upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANSON BURLINGAME.

No. 11.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 30th of December last, inclosing a copy of a letter which I had addressed to Mr. Burlingame on the 28th of December, I now inclose, for your information, a copy of his reply,* dated the 1st of this month, after he had taken leave of me on that day on proceeding to Paris.

In the conversation which I had with him on that occasion, he said that he had called in order personally to express his satisfaction with my letter of the 28th of December, which he was convinced would have the happiest results in China.

I requested Mr. Burlingame to bear in mind, and to make known to the Chinese Government, that we should henceforward have a right to expect on its part the faithful fulfilment of Treaty engagements, the prompt redress of grievances referred to the Central Government, and friendly treatment of British subjects by the Chinese authorities. This, I said, was not only just and reasonable in itself, but also necessary in order to enable Her Majesty's Government to give full effect to the policy which they desired to observe towards China, particularly with reference to not having recourse to measures of force unless for the immediate protection of life and property.

Mr. Burlingame agreed, and promised to make a report of my observations to Peking.

You will observe in Mr. Burlingame's letter, that he clearly understands that force may be at once employed "to protect life and property immediately exposed."

When, these being secured, the question at issue has been referred to Peking to be diplomatically discussed between Her Majesty's Representative and the Central Government, the manner in which the matter should thereafter be dealt with, if it could not be amicably settled on the spot, would necessarily be left to the decision of Her Majesty's Government, after hearing the Report of Her Majesty's Minister, and full consideration of all the circumstances of the case.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the accompanying copy of a letter received from Mr. Burlingame,* in reply to the letter of which a copy was inclosed in my letter of the 1st instant, together with a copy of an explanatory despatch which Lord Clarendon has addressed to Sir R. Alcock;† and I am to request that you will suggest to Lord Granville that copies of these papers should be forwarded to the Governor of Hong Kong.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copy of a letter received from Mr. Burlingame,* in reply to the letter of which a copy was inclosed in my letter of the 4th instant, together with a copy of an explanatory despatch which Lord Clarendon has addressed to Sir R. Alcock;† and I am to request that you will suggest to their Lordships that copies of these papers should be furnished to Sir H. Keppel.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 14.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 29, 1869.

I INCLOSE, for your information, copies of a letter to Mr. Burlingame, and of instructions which I have addressed to Sir R. Alcock,* respecting the relations between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire.

These papers will explain the views of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the employment of Her Majesty's naval forces for the protection of British interests in China, and will serve for your guidance as regards the employment of them for the protection of British interests in Japan.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 1, 2, and 11

CHINA. No. 1. (1869.)

Correspondence respecting the Relations
between Great Britain and China.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1½d.*]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CHINA. No. 2. (1869.)

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

ATTACK

ON

BRITISH PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES

AT

YANG-CHOW-FOO, AUGUST 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting the Attack on British Protestant
Missionaries at Yang-chow-foo, August 1868.

No. 1.

Consul Medhurst to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 18.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, August 27, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch to his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister, dated to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, August 27, 1868.

I REGRET to have to report the commission of a most serious outrage upon the persons and property of certain British Missionaries resident at Yang-chow-foo, about twelve miles north of Chin-kiang. I have not yet received any official particulars of what took place, but the reports which have come down, and which are confirmed by a hurried note from Mr. Assistant Allen, state that a mob headed by the literati attacked and set on fire the premises in which the missionary families resided; that the onslaught was sudden and severe; that the children and ladies had to be thrown out of the windows to save their lives; one gentleman had his eye knocked out; and that the whole of the party have been more or less injured. It is rumoured, moreover, that the attack was threatened for more than ten days before it occurred, and that the authorities took no pains whatever to avert the damage until the missionaries had been actually ejected, when a guard was given to escort them to Chin-kiang.

I propose to proceed to Chin-kiang at once, and I have requested the Viceroy at Nanking to depute an official of sufficient standing to meet me there for the purpose of proceeding with myself to Yang-chow, and holding a formal investigation into the circumstances of the case.

Further particulars of my proceedings shall be duly reported.

A copy of this despatch has gone direct to the Foreign Office.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, September 8, 1868.

WITH reference to Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch of the 27th ultimo, forwarding a copy of his despatch of the same date to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, I have

the honour to inclose copies of his despatches dated Chin-kiang, the 31st of August and 3rd of September respectively, with their several inclosures, containing a further report on the circumstances connected with the recent outrage on British missionaries at Yang-chow-foo.

I have, &c!
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, August 31, 1868.

IN my despatch dated Shanghai, 27th August, 1868, I reported that I was on the point of proceeding to Chinkiang for the purpose of inquiring into the circumstances connected with a serious outrage which report said had been committed upon the persons and property of some British missionaries residing at Yang-chow, a large city not far from this port; and that I had requested the Viceroy of Nanking to depute an officer to meet me here, and to assist me in investigation.

I arrived here accordingly last night; and this morning I interrogated the missionaries most carefully in respect to the part they had in the affair. The accompanying copy of a statement, with an affidavit, which they then made before me, will suffice to put your Excellency in possession of all the facts of the case.

The following significant inferences may, I think, be drawn from the accounts so given:—

1. That the attack was entirely unprovoked;
2. That it was instigated by the literati and gentry generally;
3. That the outrage was distinctly premeditated, and occupied time in being put into execution;
4. That the local authorities took no pains whatever to prevent or put down the excitement, notwithstanding that they were warned of the possible *émeute*, and repeatedly and courteously appealed to for protection;
5. That when the rage of the mob had been permitted to take its course, and after protection had been tardily accorded, they actually threatened the victims to leave them to their fate, unless they recorded it as their opinion that the attack partook of the nature of a simple disturbance, punishable as far as the actors in it were concerned, with the *cangue*; and—
6. That since the affair took place, the authorities have done nothing towards expressing their disapprobation of the conduct of the ringleaders. These facts impart to the whole affair such a very serious character, that I have decided upon proceeding to Yang-chow myself, whether the Viceroy's deputy makes his appearance or not, and endeavouring to procure the condign punishment of all persons known to have been concerned; to require reasonable compensation for the sufferers; and to cause proclamations to be issued which shall insure their future immunity from molestation. Should I fail in securing these objects, I propose to carry the whole case to his Excellency Tsêng Kwo-fan himself; and in that event I shall ask for the degradation and punishment of the *Chefu* and *Chih-hsien*.

Such are the plans I at present propose to myself; and I have communicated them, together with a copy of the affidavit, to Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer, who I have no doubt will see the necessity of supporting my action by his presence and co-operation. I trust I shall have your Excellency's approval of my conduct thus far.

I am happy to be able to report, that Mr. Assistant Allen, the moment that he received reports of the danger to which the missionaries were being subjected, most energetically hastened to their assistance, and recorded a personal protest with the authorities against their pusillanimous and culpable conduct. They endeavoured to excuse themselves from all direct blame, and showed him a proclamation which had just been issued, assuring him, moreover, that the house was already being repaired, and that the perpetrators of the outrage should all be punished. But he observed no signs of any honest intention to fulfil these pledges, and having no power to insist further, he returned to Chinkiang. A translation of the proclamation is inclosed herewith; and it will be seen with what culpable lenity the entire affair is treated. I have expressed my full approval of Mr. Allen's conduct.

I also have the honour to inclose a translation of a document which is of interest in connection with this affair. It purports to be a letter written by a man at Yang-chow to

a friend in Shanghai, and apparently was never intended for the eye of a foreigner. It curiously corroborates the statement made by Mr. Taylor, that the literati were instigators of the attack, and influenced the local authorities against the foreigners.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Statement, with Affidavit, made by Missionaries from Yang-chow.

APPEARED before me, Walter H. Medhurst, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Shanghai, on Monday, August 31, 1868, at the Consulate Office, Chinkiang, James Hudson Taylor, George Duncan, William Rudland, and Henry Reid, members of the China Inland Mission, who did collectively and individually make oath and say, that the following particulars of an outrage committed on them and their families at Yang-chow are to the best of their knowledge and belief strictly true, as witness their several hands, the day and date above set forth.

(Signed) J. HUDSON TAYLOR.
GEORGE DUNCAN.
WILLIAM RUDLAND.
HENRY REID.

STATEMENT of circumstances connected with an outrage committed on the China Inland Mission at Yang-chow, on the 22nd and 23rd of August, 1868.

It is now more than a fortnight since I was informed that there had been a meeting of some of the literary and military Siu-tsai, when it was determined to stir up the people by agitating reports "yao-yen," and thus to eject us from Yang-chow. I endeavoured to quiet the fears of my informant, one of the agents or middlemen who had assisted me in renting the house there; but from that time we were frequently annoyed, and sometimes endangered by the throwing of stones at and into our windows. Adopting every means in our power to prevent disturbance, we quietly proceeded with the repairs of the premises and hoped the best.

Ere long small anonymous handbills in manuscript were posted up, and the people began to be very troublesome, but by patiently endeavouring to pacify them, we succeeded in avoiding any outbreak. These handbills proving insufficient to effect the malignant purpose of their authors, larger ones (nearly a yard long) were posted up, calling us brigands of the religion of Jesus, stating that we scooped out the eyes of the dying, opened foundling hospitals to eat the children, cut open pregnant women (for the purpose of making medicine of the infants), &c. This roused the people so much that, though we were able to prevent a riot by taking our stand at the door of the premises and arguing all day with them as they assembled, I felt it incumbent on me to write to the Prefect, and request him to take such steps as appeared to him requisite. I wrote, inclosing a copy of the anonymous placard, on Friday, August 14, as follows:—

(*Vide Chinese Inclosure 1.*)

"J. H. Taylor, Director of the China Inland Mission, to his Excellency the Prefect Sun.

"Some time ago I had the honour to receive a copy of a Proclamation, for which I beg to thank you. Having been pressed with business, and ill (not having yet fully recovered), I have not called to thank you in person. For this omission I beg your forgiveness. At the commencement of this month I rented a house in the Kiung-hua-kuan Street, under your Excellency's jurisdiction, which house is now being repaired. Rude persons and soldiers continually disobeyed your Proclamation, and day by day came to the house, wandering about, amusing themselves, and acting most indecorously. Some of them insisted on going upstairs, and, regardless that there were females there, entered the rooms, and went hither and thither with the greatest boldness and impudence. (Being ill myself) I directed persons to remonstrate with them as to the impropriety of such conduct, but without effect.

"At the present time there are persons spreading unfounded 'yao-yen' containing many scandals. Moreover these are written in large characters on yellow paper, and placarded about in every direction, with the object of making them universally known, if

so be that foolish people believing them, may be collected into a mob and make trouble. What should be done under these circumstances? I now inclose a copy of these 'yao-yen,' the only object of my petition being to beg your Excellency to adopt some mode of repressing them, so as to frustrate their insidious purpose and prevent their spreading further; thus peace may be preserved. For matters are in such a state that, if they are not stringently prohibited, most assuredly we shall suffer great injury. Therefore I beg beforehand to apprise your Excellency, and again venture to trouble you.

"May I request the favour of a reply.

"With many compliments, &c."

The Prefect promised an answer, which we received on the following day, Saturday, August 15, as follows:—

(*Vide Chinese Inclosure 2.*)

"A short time ago I received your letter, and made myself fully acquainted with the whole matter. The Yang-chow people have long been frivolous and capricious. Have you informed the Che-heen of your having rented the house. I have not heard him refer to it. The Yang-chow people are very mixed, and like to make trouble, and the local authorities can only put out proclamations commanding and prohibiting, they have not the power to take each man in hand individually and stop him. Since I have learned these things from your letter, you can wait and I will command the Che-heen to put out proclamations, in accordance with the Chi'ang-chin Tao's despatch prohibiting these things.

"In the meantime I send this reply, with salutations, &c."

The same day some of the better disposed people forewarned us that a riot might be expected on the morrow, and advised our immediately adopting every precaution to avoid collision with the people. We at once built up as many of the entrances to the house as possible, and placing two large chairs across the passage which leads from the street to the house, two of us seated ourselves in them, and so closed the way. A crowd of from 100 to 200 persons was assembled, and from time to time we addressed them with the effect of preventing any actual breach of the peace. Moreover we had, a few days before, engaged two of the Tepao's assistants as doorkeepers, who were of some help in soothing the people.

When Sunday came we found the need of all these preparations. From morning till night we had to keep our post at the entrance. It was clear that the attempts to enrage the mob emanated from the respectably dressed persons who from time to time came among them; but our knowledge of what they were saying enabled us at once to answer their remarks. Two or three times there were decided attempts to break into the house, and the windows were frequently assailed with stones and brickbats; but by persuasion and avoiding any appearance of fear or attempt at retaliation, we constrained the majority of the mob to admit, however unwillingly, that right was on our side.

During this day, Sunday 16th, a new placard was freely posted about, more vile and irritating than the previous ones, commencing: "What a beast is this Jesus whose venom has reached to China." It concluded with a notification that on the 1st day of the 7th moon, the local examination day (the graduates meet for examination in Yangchow on the 1st and 15th of the month), the graduates and people would meet on the exercise ground, and thence come to our house and burn it down, when all, natives and foreigners, would be destroyed indiscriminately.

On Monday the crowding was much less, and we availed ourselves of the lull to circulate a number of handbills showing the foolishness of the slanders, and explaining that we could not at once throw the doors open and let in the people to view the premises for themselves on account of the danger there might be of the falling of scaffolding, and of unfinished walls, &c., but that in two or three weeks time, when the repairs were finished, we would ask them to come again. This seemed to have a beneficial effect, and though there was great crowding all Tuesday, 1st of 7th moon, and several attempts were made by literary men to stir up the mob, especially by Siu-tsai of the name Kuh, no further damage was done than the injuring of some of the window-shutters and roof, by the missiles hurled at the house from the back. On Wednesday, August 19th, as no public steps had been taken to repress the disorders, I again wrote to the Prefect, as follows:—

(*Vide Chinese Inclosure 3.*)

"Matters being most urgent, I beg you to excuse the absence of complimentary expressions.

"A few days ago I received your reply referring to the light and frivolous disposition of the Yang-chow people, and their fondness for making trouble, and stating that I was to wait until the Che-heen should issue prohibitory proclamations in accordance with the despatch of the Taotae of the Chang-chow and Chin-chiang district.

"Up to the present time I have not seen any steps to repress [these agitators]. Therefore the people are the more daring and fearless, daily crowding about the door, creating the utmost disturbance, evidently intending, and before long, to make trouble.

"It is not because I am alarmed that I come again to cry 'Danger;' what I feel anxious about is this, should loss of life ensue what then will be the consequences? May I beg your serious attention to this question? I came here to propagate religion in accordance with the will of the Emperor as given in the Treaty of Commerce and Amity; ought I then to be subjected to such insult? I request you to refer to the Articles of the Treaty, which state that British subjects are permitted to buy ground and build chapels in the interior, and furthermore are allowed in every place, at their own convenience, to travel without detention, molestation, or hindrance. And that in case of need they may with confidence look for protection and aid at any time, &c. It is on this ground that I venture to trouble you again. Yesterday a resident of the city, well known to the Tepao, of the family name of Thuh, came to the gate making a disturbance, and to my face falsely charged me with scooping out peoples' eyes, eating the brains and marrows of infants, imprisoning men in pits [for eating], and with loud shouts threatened ere many days were passed to collect a mob and come and beat and destroy us! * using most extravagant language. To this the Constable Lin Pian can bear witness. I would therefore respectfully pray your Excellency to send officers to arrest him, and put a stop to his violence, in order to quiet the streets and lanes, which will indeed be a matter for thankfulness. Wherefore, &c."

To this note the following reply was sent by the Prefect in the afternoon of the same day.

(Vide Chinese Inclosure 4.)

"A respectful reply. I received your letter, and have acquainted myself with the whole matter. The Yang-chow people are of various dispositions, and are light and easily moved. From your former letter I understood that for several days past the streets were full of placards posted anonymously and spreading 'yao-yen.' I have already privately sent men to make enquiry and arrest for adjudication; and have directed the two Chih-hsien together to put out proclamations. But persons who get up this kind of report and placard generally do it in the dark; and without either name or surname, it is not easy for me in a short time to lay hold on them. You, coming here in accordance with the treaty to spread your religion are entitled to timely protection and aid; and the Prefect and Magistrates ought to obey the Taotae and issue prohibitory proclamations. Further I have already commanded officers to investigate until they have clear evidence; in accordance with which I will deal with the matter. As to the man known to the Tepao, who dared to make disturbance at your door, I will instantly send for and examine him, and issue warning proclamations. In the mean time I send you this reply; wishing, &c."

Subsequent to the receipt of this, I was informed that the Prefect, finding the man Khu was a graduate, did not send for him, but advised the Huoh Lau Sz to prevent the graduate from making any more trouble, and I concluded that this was in consequence of the representations Mr. Allen had made in Chinkiang. For it was evident that though the Prefect would write a polite note, he feared the unpopularity of taking any decided steps in our favour.

Matters continued to look better until August 22nd. On that day two of the foreign residents in Chinkiang spent a few hours in Yang-chow, and found the city quiet. Their visit would appear to have suggested another excuse for a riot. In the exercise grounds and tea houses, and along the streets a rumour was industriously circulated that more foreigners had come, and that 24 children were missing. I first became aware of danger about 4 P.M., when one of the servants came running into the house, and asked me to come out at once, as both the inner and outer gate had been burst open, and a crowd was already in the premises. Losing no time I went and found it was indeed so, but succeeded in getting them out, and in stationing two of our number at the end of the entrance lane as before, while the gates were repaired by the carpenters then working on the premises. A little later the people began to pelt those sitting at the door, a thing not attempted before. At dark instead of going home the rioters became more unscrupulous. We sent at intervals two messengers to the Prefect, but they neither

* This man is a Siu-tsai; the Tepao dare not give me his full name.

returned themselves, nor did any aid come. The attack became general, some of the shutters were dashed in from behind, part of the back garden wall was pulled down, and it was evident that without help we could not long keep the people out. Mr. Duncan and I determined therefore to endeavour to make our way through the mob, and go in person to the Prefect, as there was no hope of Chinese messengers reaching him. Passing through a neighbour's house, and knowing a private way leading towards the Yamên, we succeeded in eluding the rioters about the door, but when we reached the main street we were at once recognised, and severely pelted with stones and brickbats, and but for the protection afforded by the darkness should scarcely have reached the Yamên. The Men-fang were closing the gates as we approached, alarmed by the yells of the people behind us, but the crowd came up, and closing upon us, the as yet unbarred gate gave way to the pressure, and we were precipitated into the entrance-hall. We were taken to the room of the Sz-yie, and kept waiting about three-quarters of an hour before we had an audience; all the time hearing the yells of the mob, a mile or more off, destroying, for ought we knew, not only the property, but possibly the lives of those most dear to us. And when at last we did get an audience, it was almost more than we could bear with composure to be interrogated as to what we really did with the babies; whether it was true that we had bought them, and how many; what was really the cause of all this rioting, &c. At last I told his Excellency that the real cause of all this trouble was his own neglect in not taking measures when the matter was small and manageable; that I must now request him first to take steps to repress the riot and save any of our friends who might still be alive; and afterwards make such enquiries as he might wish, or I would not answer for the result. "Ah," said he, "very true, very true; first quiet the people and then enquire. Sit still, I will go and see what can be done."

He went out telling us to remain, as the only chance of his effecting anything depended on our keeping out of sight; for by this time the number of rioters amounted to 8,000 or 10,000 (the natives estimated them at 20,000). We were kept in the torture of suspense for about two hours, when the Prefect returned with the Ts'an-fu, and told us that all was quiet now, that the Ts'an-fu and himself the Show-pe, and two Hsien, had been in person to the scene of the disturbance; and that they had seized several of those who were plundering the premises and would have them punished. He then sent chairs for us, and we returned under escort. On the way back we were told that all the foreigners were killed, and when we reached the house the scene was such as baffled all description; here a pile of half-burnt reeds showed where one of the attempts to set the house on fire had been made; there débris of a broken wall were to be seen; and strewn everywhere were the remains of boxes, and furniture, scattered papers and letters, broken work-boxes, writing-desks, dressing-cases, surgical instrument cases, smouldering remains of valuable books, &c., but no trace of inhabitants within. It was some time ere I was able to learn that they had escaped, and then it was not easy to ascertain where they were. At last I found them in the house of one of the neighbours under the care of the Kan-tseuen-hsien. On hearing from him that he considered it safe to remove them into the house, I took them back again, and was then informed of what had transpired during our absence.

It would seem that, had the Prefect sent help at once, no harm would have been done, and it is difficult to avoid the conviction that he intentionally avoided it in order to allow time for a sufficient amount of disturbance to make us afraid to remain in the city. After we left, Messrs. Reid and Rudland kept the doors and entrances as long as possible, determined only to retire from point to point as actually compelled, and hoping to retard the progress of the rioters until help might arrive. While they were keeping the people out at the front door, a wall that had been built to close up a side door was pulled down, and they had to retire to a nearer point. In the meantime the windows of the main building continued to be assailed with showers of stone, and the walls at the back were broken through. Mr. Rudland therefore went to try and keep the people at bay there. The hope of plunder being evidently more promising behind the house, and all means of defence being absent, the mob concentrated their efforts in that direction, and the front of the premises was left comparatively open. When Mr. Reed was aware of this he left the servants in charge at the front, and joined Mr. Rudland in the main building, the latter going upstairs, while Mr. Reid remained below. The rioters had already made two entrances into the house, but had not ventured in. It was not long, however, before the bolder of them did so, destroying the furniture downstairs, and taking off whatever of value they were able to remove. Soon, some of them went upstairs, and commenced pillaging the bedrooms. Resistance was out of the question, and they at once began to carry off boxes, &c., and to riddle the heavier cases and drawers. At the same time those below were kindling fires, the smoke of which was almost stifling upstairs; shortly,

Mr. Reid, from the Court below, in a hollow, hoarse voice, as if utterly exhausted, called out, "Mrs. Taylor, come down if you can, they are setting the house on fire, and I cannot help you." By means of sheets and blankets and Mr. Rudland's aid, Mrs. Rudland, our head printer's young wife Ansing, and one of my children, were let down from the projecting roof under the window of the bedroom, where all were now collected. At this point a man came into the room, and Mrs. Taylor expostulated with him, asking him if he were not ashamed to molest women and children, and succeeded in keeping him parleying for a short time; meanwhile, a little Chinese girl and my two younger boys were let down by Mr. Rudland. Our nurse (Mrs. Bohannon) made her way down the stairs with the baby, by following closely a man who was running off with a box, and then rushing through the fire at the bottom of the stairs escaped to the front. The man mentioned above, felt about and searched the persons of the ladies, taking money from Miss Blatchley, a pocket and hair ornament from Miss Desgraz, and her wedding-ring from Mrs. Taylor. The smoke was now thickening, and the noise of falling walls, of the stones thrown in at the windows, and the increasing yells of the mob were truly alarming. Miss Desgraz was let down by the blanket; but then some burning materials were thrown just underneath the window to prevent others being saved. The same man who had robbed the ladies twice attempted to kill Mr. Rudland, and would certainly have succeeded but for the interposition of Mrs. Taylor and Miss Blatchley. Mr. Reid (who had several times been obliged to escape and hide from his assailants) called to them from below that there was not a moment to lose; they must jump down from the roof (from 12 to 15 feet), and he would catch them. He was able somewhat to break Mrs. Taylor's fall, and then a brickbat struck his eye and blinded him, disabling him from assisting Miss Blatchley, who fell upon the stones. While prostrate and helpless upon the ground, almost stunned by the fall and by the injuries they had sustained, showers of missiles were hurled at them. Mr. Rudland dropped himself from the roof and was immediately assaulted with a club, but escaped with bruises, and assisted the others to flee, leaving the house at the mercy of the rioters. Those who had escaped from the house earlier had been concealed under the "liang ting" in the garden, and when all were down they were able to make their way into one of their neighbour's houses in the same compound, as all the rioters were busy at the back of the building, and had left the front free for the time being.

It was past midnight when we returned to the house. A guard of soldiers and some men from the mandarins kept watch through the night. But, when they left at dawn, there were none appointed to relieve them, and the people soon began to re-collect. We were able to keep them out of the premises only for a short time, for now there were five entrances, and the plunder of the preceding evening had whetted the appetite of the people. I had again to go the Prefect and request aid. He did not see me himself, but sent for the Kan-tsuen-hsien, who told me that it was not safe for any of the members of our party to leave the city now; but that if I would write a letter to the Prefect, stating that we were not the parties who had bought children, and without entering into particulars, but simply calling the riot of last night a disturbance, would ask for redress, the Prefect would send this letter to him, and he would put several persons into the cangue, and issue proclamations to quiet the people. "Thus," said he, "we may hope before night to have comparative peace restored. And by to-morrow if you wish to send away the wounded and the females, you can do so with safety, either going yourself, or remaining behind as you deem best." He returned with me to the house, where I found another wall broken down, and further loss and destruction of property. Matters had looked even worse than the night before. At this time the premises in front as well as behind were filled with the crowd, leaving no way of escape; but on this I need not enlarge, as no personal injuries were sustained, though several were struck with missiles and sticks. I at once wrote to the Prefect, entering somewhat, though not fully, into detail, as I judged that the note might perhaps be used as an evidence against us, to prove that after all the riot had not been a serious one. The following is a translation of the letter:—

(*Vide Chinese Inclosure 5.*)

"Excuse want of compliments, as matters are urgent. Yesterday evening countless multitudes of people really did assemble at our place to set the house on fire; happily, we were pitied and saved by our neighbours. [The mob] also destroyed our tables, chairs, and other furniture, and carried off cloths, dollars, hair ornaments, &c., to an extent not yet ascertained by us. They severely injured the eye of my countryman, Mr. Reid, beating many others; and all this because of "yao-yen" falsely charging me with roasting and eating children. I have never made a practice of opening foundling hospitals

[in our stations], and have never purchased a single infant; and yet have suffered such extraordinary ill-treatment. On what principles can such treatment as this be justified? I must look up to your Excellency and pray you to decide what is to be done. There are many other things, into which I cannot at present enter; but with saluation, &c."

This letter being enveloped and closed, I dispatched it by a messenger to the Prefect; but it was opened on the way by the Kan-tsuen-hsien, and returned to me as unsuitable. I went to him and pointed out that much as we might regret it, we could not alter the past; that he was at liberty to deal as leniently as he wished with the prisoners, but that truth must be told. He replied, "If you persist in sending that letter to the Prefect, I will go back and have nothing more to do with the matter. You may protect yourselves as best you can, but I forewarn you that the lives of your party will probably be sacrificed." At his direction, therefore, and almost at his dictation, another letter was written as follows:—

(Vide Chinese Inclosure 6.)

"The people have wantonly spread 'yao-yen' falsely charging me with opening a foundling hospital, and secretly taking the infants and roasting and eating them, and not knowing that I have never opened any such institution have wantonly maligned me. In consequence, last night an immense mob came and were riotous and lawless in the extreme. The authorities have already taken several of the people, but have not yet punished them. Should the storm again burst forth great will be the injury, and, therefore, I hope your Excellency will quickly take these prisoners and beat them, and make them wear the cangue before our house, as a warning to the multitude, at the same time putting out proclamations to quiet the people. Thus peace and quiet may be happily attained.

"With salutations, &c."

This letter the Chih-hsien took away with him. He promised to make arrangements for our removal from the city, as he said he might be unable to protect us through the night. In the afternoon he engaged four boats, the requisite sedan chairs, and coolies for the undestroyed baggage, and sent us under escort to the south gate, whence on Monday morning we set out for Chinkiang. We had not travelled far when we met Mr. Allen on his way to Yang-chow, who saw for himself the condition of Mr. Reid, as he did afterwards the state of our house at Yang-chow.

I have omitted to state above, that the mob on Saturday night were reported to us to have been armed with knives and spears, as well as clubs.

The amount of our loss I have not yet been able to estimate. On Saturday night the Yang-chow-foo promised Mr. Duncan and myself to make good whatever the loss might be, and to have the house repaired for us. But on the following day the Chih-hsien informed us that we should not be allowed to return to the same premises.

The premises in which we lived were obtained with the knowledge, and partly through the intervention of Mr. Lay. He procured for us a letter of recommendation from the Taotae of Chin-kiang to the Chee-foo of Yang-chow, who eventually gave us a sealed proclamation authorizing our residence under Treaty in the city, and we thereupon succeeded in making an agreement for our premises: 200 dollars deposit was paid by us on taking possession, and a regular lease was drawn out and signed by witnesses. That lease has since been recorded in the Consulate at Chin-kiang.

The members of the Mission present on the occasion of the outrage were as follows:—

Mr. Taylor, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Rudland; Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Rudland; Miss Degraz, Miss Blatchley, and Miss Annie Bohannon. Children four—Herbert Taylor, aged 8; Frederick Taylor, aged 6; Samuel Taylor, aged 4; Maria Taylor, aged 2.

There were also nineteen teachers and servants (native), male and female, on the premises, together with one child.

The whole of the foreigners were dressed in native costume.

During the whole time that the Mission has been stationed at Yang-chow, namely, since the first of June, 1868, every member of it has, to the best of his and her ability, avoided giving the slightest possible cause of offence to any of the people, and has borne with studied patience and endurance any casual insults which may have been offered from time to time. Even our missionary efforts had not commenced in any public shape, but had been entirely confined to personal conversation with visitors to the house. We had no arms or weapons of any kind in our possession from first to last.

(Signed)

J. HUDSON TAYLOR,
Director, China Inland Mission.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Proclamation issued by the Prefect and Magistrate of Yang-chow on recent Outrage.

(Translation.)

A PROHIBITORY PROCLAMATION.

THE Prefect and Magistrate of Yang-chow have received the following communication from the English missionary, Mr. Taylor :—

The people have been disseminating false reports that the missionaries keep children in their house, and secretly boil and eat them, but the people know nothing of the matter, and there is really nothing of the sort done. Last night there was a countless crowd of people [round the house] creating a disturbance; and I beg that they may be punished, and a proclamation be issued to quiet the populace.

The Prefect and Magistrate therefore declare that the disorderly proceedings of the populace in the missionaries' house were exceedingly rude and ill-mannered, and they accordingly issue this prohibitory proclamation for the information of the people, forbidding them hereafter to create any disturbance at Mr. Taylor's house. If anything of the sort occurs, the offenders will be severely punished. Disobey not!

The proclamation to be posted in every street.

Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

Note from Chiang Yuan, at Yang-chow, to a Friend at Shanghai.

(Translation.)

YOU must have received the letter I last wrote you.

On the 22nd August we had a great commotion (literally, "wave"). The country folks to the number of several thousands burned and completely sacked the houses of the Western missionaries: these barely escaped with life, and were escorted to Chin-kiang by the local authorities.

The cause of this was, that when these missionaries first came a rumour got about that the Tien-chu religionists (Roman Catholics) required men's brains for food. The people of the place were filled with fear and suspicion, and when on the 21st a foreigner was seen to go out of the south gate alone, with a basket, seemingly for the purpose of collecting something, the Magistrate of the Chiang-tu Hsien, was begged to have the place examined. Ten or more children's corpses were dug up, and were found to have been deprived, some of the heart, some of the eyes, and some of the brains. This greatly increased the excitement. (The people) had previously asked the opinion of the most prominent of the gentry. Yeu, formerly Viceroy of the two Kwang, gave it as his opinion that foreigners were very much afraid of the people, and that these had only to collect together, and beat the foreigners to get rid of them.

Li Futai, Wu Taoutae, and Pien Taoutae also held the same language. The people were so emboldened that the local authorities dared not refuse to come and examine (the corpses).

Now Yeu was a fellow-student of the present Viceroy's (literally, of the same year), Li was a pupil of the Viceroy's, and Wu an intimate friend of his father's; and they are all of one mind. My idea, then, is, that foreigners will not be able again to come to Yang-chow and set up a church; they will be killed as they come. If they were allowed to come to Yang-chow, salt trade would be much shackled (literally, pinioned by the arms). Some gossip would be sure to reach Peking if anything (*scil.*, wrong) were to be discovered about an affair so nearly concerning us, and no slight consequences would arise.

What has happened has greatly relieved people's minds; and no doubt you will also be pleased to hear it.

Even if foreigners do write to Nanking, the Viceroy will take no notice of their letters, as Yeu and Li will write him their joint views before they do.

With compliments from your stupid younger brother.

Dated August 23, 1868.

(Signed) CHIANG HUANG.

Note.—The envelope in which the above was forwarded to the Consulate was not the one in which the letter came from Yang-chow, if it did come from there at all. The address is, "To the honoured uncle on the mother's side," while the letter is subscribed as from a "Younger brother"—a form in use between persons in nowise related to each other, and which a nephew would never use to his uncle.

(Initialled) W. G. S.

Inclosure 5 in No. 2.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, September 3, 1868.

REFERRING to my letter dated the 31st of August last on the subject of the Yang-chow outrage, I regret to have to report that the Viceroy of Nanking has been induced by the misrepresentations of the Chih-fu to excuse himself from deputing an officer to accompany me to Yang-chow.

A copy and translation of his Excellency's communication on the subject is inclosed herewith, and it will be seen how plausible an account of the affair has been forwarded by the Yung-chow officials to Nanking, and to how ingenious a use they have put the letter, which was extorted from Mr. Taylor by the Kan-chuen-hsien. I have lost no time in endeavouring to disabuse the Viceroy's mind of the false impressions under which he appears to be labouring, and repeating my entreaty in urgent terms that a deputy may yet be commissioned to co-operate with me. A translation of my reply is inclosed herewith.

I regret to say that symptoms of a similar intolerant spirit are beginning to exhibit themselves amongst the Chinese inhabitants of this port. In June last this same Mr. Taylor rented a house within the walls of Chinkiang-foo, taking care to conduct the transaction in a plain and straightforward manner, and to record the lease, after execution and signature, with Mr. Assistant Allen. The neighbours, however, soon took exception to the introduction of a foreigner, and a pretext was at once got up to cancel the lease on the plea of its having been executed by only one branch of the family without the consent of the others. The matter thus came to the cognizance of the Hsien, who took the side of the malcontents, and had some of the parties to the lease arrested. (This Hsien is well known as the person who was dismissed from the Hsien-ship of Shanghae by Ting Futai for bribery and other mal practices in April or May of last year). Here Mr. Assistant Allen interfered and appealed to the Chefu (the Taoutae being absent) who promised that justice should be done, and that a proclamation should be issued by the Hsien in accordance with Treaty provisions. The result may be seen in the accompanying translation of a wordy and indiscreet proclamation by the Hsien, which has been most plentifully posted up all over the city. Many persons are of opinion that to the success which attended this effort at a port open to trade may be attributed the burst of ill-feeling at Yang-chow.

Just at this juncture of affairs I arrived at Chinkiang, and forthwith put myself in communication with the Taoutae. The proclamation I denounced as mendacious in its statements, and calculated to be most mischievous in its consequences; and I begged him to lose no time in causing another and better one to be issued in its place, as well as to secure Mr. Taylor peaceable possession of his property. The Taoutae took up the case in a very fair spirit; he examined himself into the character of the transaction, and the validity of the lease, requesting Mr. Taylor to appear in person and state his case, and he yesterday called to tell me he had decided that the house belonged to Mr. Taylor, and must be given up to him accordingly. He likewise promised that a draft of a proclamation of a more satisfactory character should be speedily submitted to me.

The Taoutae left the Consulate about 3 P.M., and appears to have immediately deputed the Chih Hsien to give effect to his decision. For towards dusk yesterday, I am informed, the Hsien having repaired to the spot was mobbed by an immense crowd who protested against the house being yielded up, and on his declaring that it was not his fault, but the Taoutae's, whose commands he was simply carrying out, the mob rushed to the Taoutae's Yamên, tore down his gates, forced their way into his judgment-hall, smashed some of his furniture, and openly accused him of traitorous collusion with the foreigners. Even the Hsien, I am told, reached his Yamên with his dress all bespattered with mud. The whole town is consequently in a state of excitement, and rumours are at this moment in circulation that this Consulate is to be the next point of attack this evening. Unfortunately the Taoutaes have taken upon themselves to interfere, the house in dispute being situated next door to one tenanted by one of the officials, and their resistance, as may be presumed, introduces a formidable element into the difficulty.

The Taoutae has sent a message begging me not to allow myself to be put out, and promising that he will endeavour to fulfil his promises, notwithstanding the demonstration, so I am in hopes to be able to carry my point yet. The anticipated arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" this evening or to-morrow morning will tend materially to promote this desirable result. A successful assertion of Treaty rights here is likely to have a most favourable effect upon popular feeling at Yangchow, as the two cities

are connected by extensive trading relations, and numerous Yangchow families are permanently resident here.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 6 in No. 2.

The Viceroy, Tseng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir, September 2, 1868.

IN reply to your despatch on the subject of an outrage at Yang-chow, requesting me to depute an officer to proceed to that city and investigate the affair, I have to state that I am in receipt of a representation from the local authorities at Yang-chow, stating that the affair had been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; and this, corroborated by the facts that certain Consuls resident at Chin-kiang had proceeded to Yang-chow, and had found the house not to be burnt down, and that in a letter from Mr. Taylor to the local authorities no mention is made of personal injuries having been suffered.

From your having been at a distance, at Shanghae, you could not have been made acquainted with the aspect of affairs at the time the case was brought to an end; and I presume that when, on your arrival at Chin-kiang, you have had a personal interview with the Consuls who went to Yang-chow, you will satisfy yourself that there appears to be no grounds for a second inspection of the locality, and that there is no necessity for me to depute an officer to accompany you.

I may further remark that your despatch arrived at Nanking on the 30th of August between 9 and 11 in the forenoon; and as my officer could not arrive at the time (that day) you fixed, I have not sent him.

I append copy of the letter of Mr. Taylor to the Yang-chow authorities, for your information.

Note.—The letter alluded to above is the one extorted from Mr. Taylor by the Kan-chuan Hsien, and is No. 6 of those attached to his affidavit.

Inclosure 7 in No. 2.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy, Tseng Kwo-fan.

Sir, Chin-kiang, September 3, 1868.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's reply dated yesterday, from which I regret exceedingly to find that you do not consider it necessary to depute an officer to proceed with me to Yang-chow-foo.

Your Excellency appears to base this opinion upon the Chih-fu's assertion, to the effect that he has satisfactorily arranged the affair, and likewise upon a copy of Mr. Taylor's letter sent up by the Chih-fu, in which no mention is made of personal injuries having been sustained.

Unhappily, the Chih-fu's representation is entirely false. How can the affair be said to be settled when the missionaries' house has been plundered by an armed mob instigated by the gentry; when one of the missionaries has lost an eye; when two women in a pregnant condition have been so bruised and terrified that they are in a precarious condition; when all have been more or less beaten and bruised; when the missionaries have been driven from the city; when the very letter by Mr. Taylor, which your Excellency quotes, was extorted from him under threats of being sacrificed to the fury of the mob; when placards are even now issued, threatening any foreigner with death who may venture to return; and when the local authorities, in deference to the people, have designedly construed a case of organized plunder with violence and arson, into one of a simple street brawl? Surely your Excellency's sense of justice and reason, and your knowledge of what is due to foreigners under Treaty, cannot term this state of things a satisfactory settlement!

Be this as it may be, I have to acquaint your Excellency that I am now here at Chin-kiang, and am prepared to proceed to Yang-chow with an armed escort, if I can procure one, and without if I do not succeed, for the purpose of securing due redress

for the outrage which has been committed; and I have again to entreat you, forthwith, to depute a special officer to act with me so as to smooth the way to an amicable settlement of affairs. A further persistence on your Excellency's part to refuse compliance with the request will occasion me the more regret, because I foresee, from the aspect of affairs, that the Chih-fu has permitted the popular excitement to reach such a pitch that he will find extraordinary difficulty in retracing his steps, and giving me the redress I shall require. Should this prove to be the result, I shall have no other alternative but to request him to accompany me to Nanking, and there be accused by me to you in person upon most serious charges.

I may also add that prompt action is essential in this instance, as the success of the attack at Yang-chow has already begun to bear fruit in a very serious disturbance which occurred in this city last night in connection with the same subject—intramural residence of foreigners—an account of which will, no doubt, reach your ears this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 8 in No. 2.

Proclamation of Wang, Magistrate of Tan-tu Hsien.

(Translation.)

WHEREAS instructions have been received by the magistrate from his Excellency the Taoutae to the following effect:—

I am informed by Mr. Allen, of Her Majesty's Consulate, that the British missionary, Mr. Taylor, has applied for a proclamation to protect him in case of any insult or obstruction being offered him by the soldiers or populace in consequence of his having rented, for missionary purposes, a house forming part of the Pao-chêng house, the private property of Hsia Lü-chih, within the city of Chin-kiang. The magistrate is directed to report whether the landlord applied for his approval, and whether any obstacles stand in the way of the house being so rented:

And whereas just as the investigation was going on, the widows Hsia (*née* Li, and Hsia, *née* Chiang) appeared and stated that the Pao-chêng house was the common property of them, and of Hsia Lu-chih, and Hsia Chih-to, that Hsia Lü-chih had mortgaged part of the house, secretly and without telling them, to a Christian; that they would by no means give their consent, and begged the magistrate to hear and determine the case. The magistrate then had all the parties summoned, when the two women repeated in their evidence what they had stated before, and positively re-asserted that they would not consent to lease their house to a foreigner. Hsia Lü-chih, on being confronted with them, deposed that the house in question was common property, and that in a moment of stupidity he had omitted to consult Hsia (*née* Li) and the rest, and had stealthily leased it to foreigners; that he was ready to return them the deposit he had received and cancel the lease, and allow them to rent another house:

And whereas by the Treaty the renting of houses from foreigners should depend on the mutual willingness of both parties, and this Pao-chêng house property, being the common property of four parties, is found to have been let to foreigners by Hsia Lü-chih secretly on his own authority and Hsia (*née* Li) and the rest will not give their consent, which they ought not to be constrained to give; the magistrate has directed the money received by Hsai Lü-chih to be returned to the foreigners who shall be at liberty to rent other premises, and has reported to this effect to his Excellency the Taoutae, for the information of Mr. Allen:

And whereas his Excellency the Prefect has given the magistrate directions, at the instance of Mr. Allen with reference to Mr. Taylor, to issue a proclamation to the people in the city to induce them to rent houses to Mr. Taylor:

And whereas the XIIth Article of the Treaty directs that British subjects, whether at the ports or at other places, "desiring to rent houses, shall make their agreement at the rates prevailing among the people, without exaction on either side:"

Wherefore this Proclamation is issued for the information of the inhabitants and the Tipaos. You are to know that from and after the date of this Proclamation, should foreigners desire to rent houses of you, and there be no obstacle or unwillingness on your part, you must make the agreement at the rates prevailing among the people as provided by Treaty, and you must make a true statement of the facts to the magistrate before the transfer is allowed to take place:

Should you be unwilling to rent to foreigners, you are at liberty to follow your inclinations, and no constraint can be used contrary to Treaty.

Obey with trembling! No disobedience! A special Proclamation.

Consul Medhurst to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, September 23, 1868.

WITH reference to Mr. Forrest's despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copies of my correspondence bearing on the recent outrage on British missionaries at Yang-chow-foo with his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Nanking, September 15, 1868.

IN continuation of my despatch dated the 3rd instant upon the subject of the Yang-chow outrage and the Chin-kiang difficulty, I have now the honour further to report as follows :—

Firstly, as regards Yang-chow, Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" made her appearance at Chin-kiang on the morning of Saturday the 5th, and Commander Bush at once made arrangements with me for proceeding to Yang-chow on the 7th, accompanied by an escort of about ninety men and a field-piece, in his own boats, towed by a small canal steamer, which Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., of Shanghai, had been so courteous as to place at his entire disposal. As I thought it not by any means improbable that the sudden appearance of such a force before the gate of Yang-chow might induce the authorities and people to imagine that we had come with a hostile intent, and thus bring about a collision, I deemed it expedient before starting to forewarn the Chih-fu of our coming, and to explain its object, which I did in a letter, translation of which I have the honour to inclose.

The 7th September proved to be so rainy that we were compelled to put off our expedition until the following day, but that evening I received two communications, one from the Viceroy and the other from the Chih-sien of Yang-chow, written in the name of the Chih-fu. Copies with translations of both documents are appended. The one, as will be observed, informs me that the Viceroy had at last concluded upon deputing an officer to co-operate with me, and that he had instructed the authorities of Yang-chow to receive me with every consideration; whilst the other, penned no doubt before the change in the Viceroy's intention had become known at Yang-chow, advertised me, in no civil tone, that the affair had been sufficiently attended to, and that neither my presence nor interference was needed. The very inadequate rank of the officer appointed to inquire with me into the affair is a noticeable point in the Viceroy's letter, as also the accusation brought against the Roman Catholic Missionaries as having been the original occasion of the animosity entertained by the people of Yang-chow against the Protestant brethren. A similar story to that told by the Viceroy about the excessive mortality amongst the orphans reared by the Roman Catholic Mission, I had already heard from Father Seckinger at Chin-kiang, who further informed me that the malicious reports as to the causes of deaths had been officially contradicted by the local authorities in a public proclamation, so that the people had not that excuse for their violence which the Viceroy pretends to make out. I have also to request your Excellency's particular attention to that portion of the Chih-fu's letter which quotes the reply and instructions received by him from the Viceroy as being unworthy of the character for energy, intelligence, liberality towards foreigners, and determination to maintain Treaty rights which is usually attributed to that high functionary.

The receipt of the two communications above alluded to occasioned no change in my plans, save that of requesting Commander Bush to leave behind him the field-piece, as calculated, perhaps, to be regarded more in the light of a menace than appeared to be expedient. The deputy of the Viceroy had not made his appearance by 7 A.M. on the 8th, the time subsequently determined upon for our start for Yang-chow; and as the delay in his appointment was attributable to no neglect of mine, whilst more than twelve hours had elapsed since my receiving official notice of his intended approach, I did not

feel authorized in detaining Her Majesty's ship by putting off the expedition until the following morning. To have started in the middle of the day was of course out of the question.

We entered the Grand Canal at its junction with the Yang-tsze at the modern Kuachow, and found it to be a broad fine stream all the way up to Yang-chow, the depth ranging from 10 to 16 feet. The large number and size of the junks we met and passed showed signs of a busy traffic.

We reached our destination about noon, and were told that all the officials awaited us at one of the gates. By some mistake, however, we entered by a different gate, and marched through the city by a more busy thoroughfare than that through which the authorities doubtless had intended to conduct us, a fact which seemed to occasion the Prefect immense alarm, if I might judge by the abject terror depicted upon his countenance when he made his appearance at the *yamên*. He commenced the conversation by repeating in so many words the exculpations and excuses which had already formed the subject of his letter (Inclosure No. 3), declaring that the populace in their indignation had even published a lampoon upon himself, designating him as "the British Prefect;" and he showed me a placard in corroboration of this statement. I deemed it best not to waste any words in argument, but at once to place in the Prefect's hands a written communication (copy and translation of which I have the honour to inclose), which I had prepared, setting forth all the facts as they had been related to me on oath by Mr. Taylor and his brother missionaries, and stating the nature of the redress which I felt myself compelled to require. I likewise informed him that although the letter did not name the amount of compensation to be made good to the sufferers, I held in my hand a Memorandum of their actual losses (copy herewith inclosed) estimated at 1,128 taels 40 mace, and that I proposed to make this sum up to 2,000 taels, so as to include reparation for the loss to Mr. Reid of the sight of one eye, and for the various injuries, more or less severe, received by the other members of the party as well as sundry expenses to which Mr. Taylor has been put, in consequence of his sudden ejection.

The Prefect perused the letter very deliberately, merely making deprecatory remarks here and there as he went on, but without directly denying any of my charges. As regards the demands with which the letter closed, he declared his utter inability to comply with that one requiring the seizure and punishment of the gentry whom I had named, they being all men of wealth and influence, and possessed of buttons of far higher rank than his own; but the remainder he said he was quite willing to concede, provided I allowed him time to refer to the Viceroy, in obedience to instructions which he had received to that effect. On my calling for these he exhibited them forthwith, and I thereupon suggested that I should either wait at Yang-chow, pending his visit to Nanking, or that he should repair to Nanking in my company, giving him the option of selecting either course. He preferred the latter, and then, at my request, put upon paper his views in regard to the several demands, and his promise to proceed to Nanking forthwith. The accompanying is a translation of his letter.

This arrangement having been effected, I proposed to the Prefect that he should visit and inspect Mr. Taylor's late premises in my company. He acquiesced in such a very ready manner as to take me quite by surprise, for I had taken it for granted that the authorities would not care that I should see the evidence of their neglect and delinquency; and I was aware from Mr. Allen's account, that, when he saw the authorities the day after the ejection of the mission, they had positively refused to accompany him to the scene of the outrage. As will be seen in the sequel, however, the Prefect had doubtless an object in this officious compliance with my proposition.

Mr. Taylor's house proved to be but half-a-mile distant from the *yamên*, a very significant fact, when considered in connection with the number of hours allowed by the Chih-fu to elapse before he went to the assistance of the missionaries on the night of the attack, as proved by their affidavit. We found the premises nearly cleared of all the wooden partitions, folding doors, windows, &c., so common in native houses; a wrenched hinge or smashed frame which had been left here and there showing manifest tokens that the removal had been effected suddenly and by violence. The mortar on the walls showed everywhere unmistakeable signs of the rain of brickbats which had compelled the unfortunate occupants to flee from room to room for their lives, and a few remaining *débris* of broken furniture and trunks collected in one or two of the upstairs rooms were sufficient to convince us that a plundering mob had been at work in the house. There were, however, no signs at first sight of any fire having been applied, or any breach having been made in the outer walls; and it was only upon the fact being pointed out to me by one of the missionaries who accompanied the expedition, that I was able to detect that every breach had been most carefully bricked up and cleverly plastered over, and every trace of

burning swept up or scraped away. Even the low front wall of the upper story, over which the female members of the Mission had scrambled to get out on to the tiles, had been repaired, although the tiles below belied the alteration, by the distinct signs they showed of having been trampled upon in the attempt to escape. I took care to point out all these various indications of riot and after-repair to the authorities present, but they received my remarks in sulkily silence, much more chagrined apparently at having been detected in their efforts to deceive than at the sight of the wreck which their neglect and incapacity had combined to bring about.

We here left the authorities and returned to our boats, the Prefect pledging himself to start early on the following morning with us on our way to Nanking. During our stay in the city our party was surrounded and followed very naturally by a vast concourse of Chinese, but their demeanour was marked by the utmost quiet and respect, even when the attendants of the Prefect thrashed the front ranks of the gazers with canes in order to make them give way; proving thereby that the plea employed by the Prefect to the effect that the people were beyond his control was entirely without foundation.

The following morning the Prefect made his appearance in a large mandarin boat, and the whole party left on the down trip. We accompanied the Prefect as far as the mouth of the Grand Canal, where we left him in his boat, and proceeded on board Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" at Chin-kiang, promising to take him on board early the following morning on our way up to Nanking.

An account of my proceedings at Nanking shall form the subject of a separate communication. Meanwhile, I have the honour to bring to your Excellency's notice, in connection with this subject, the very courteous assistance afforded to Commander Bush and myself by Lieutenant de la Barriere, commanding His Imperial Majesty's gun-boat "Le Breton," who was good enough to tow the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," with the escort on board, from Chin-kiang to the mouth of the Grand Canal, and to stay there as a reserve in case of need until we made good our return. Apart from this timely aid, we should have experienced considerable difficulty in reaching our starting-point on the canal, for the "Rinaldo" drew too much water to allow of her reaching the mouth, and the small steamer did not possess sufficient power to tow us thus far.

As this despatch has unavoidably reached such a great length, I beg leave, likewise, to defer my remarks upon the affair at Chin-kiang until another opportunity; and in closing this communication, I venture to add a hope that what I have effected so far may meet with your Excellency's full approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to Sun, Prefect of Yang-chow-foo.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, September 6, 1868.

IT appearing to me expedient that I should proceed to Yang-chow-foo for the purpose of having a personal interview with yourself in respect to the outrage committed upon the missionaries Taylor and others on the 22nd ultimo, I have the honour to acquaint you that I propose to carry out the intention in the course of the present week.

As placards of the most inflammatory character have been issued by malevolent persons against foreigners both before and since the outrage, I have thought it necessary to invite Commander Bush, of Her Majesty's Royal Navy, to accompany me with a suitable escort, but you may rest assured, nevertheless, that our mission will be entirely amicable in its nature, our object being simply to secure from the local authorities a reasonable adjustment of the grievances Mr. Taylor has to complain of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 6, 1868.

I RECEIVED a despatch from you yesterday, at 5 or 6 o'clock P.M., to the following effect.

I have the honour to inform you, with reference to the assault on Mr. Taylor by the populace at Yang-chow, that I have now received a third representation from the Prefect of that city, in which he states that, on the 24th August, about noon, Messrs. Allen, Canny and Sands (Vice-Consuls of Great Britain, France, and the United States of America), arrived from Chin-kiang, and had an interview with him. They told him that the house which Mr. Taylor had leased had been burned down, but he denied the statement, and told them that he had issued a proclamation forbidding the people again to raise a disturbance; sent away Mr. Taylor, under escort, for a temporary absence, and ordered the Hsien to examine and punish those concerned in the affair. The Vice-Consuls made no remarks in reply, but took the draft of the proclamation away with them. Before returning to Chin-kiang they examined the house in question, and found that, in fact, it had not been burnt down.

The fact that the Vice-Consuls had carefully examined the place before their return led me to conclude that the case had been arranged.

The letter from Mr. Taylor to the local authorities, which you pronounce to have been extorted from him by the Kan-chuan Hsien, would not appear to have been dictated by an outsider. As to the request it contains that the offenders should be cangued, I am informed by the Prefect that he has cangued four men, viz., Hsieh Tseng-fu, Han Tai, Jên Ifa, and Yin Sheh-tsai.

I have commissioned Chang Kai-chi, Magistrate of Shang-yuan-Hsin, Sub-Prefect in the Grain Transport Department, to accompany you to Yang-chow, and further your wishes to have the matter honestly adjudicated on.

This outbreak is attributable to the fact that the Frenchmen Seekinger rented a house in an underhand manner, and opened an orphanage there. The deaths from injuries of the children in the establishment being somewhat excessive, the Ching-Tu Hsien investigated the subject, and the depositions are before me. Li Ti-i states that fourteen corpses had been buried out of the orphanage. Lin Tung-jen states that forty and more deaths have occurred this year, the children dying from ill-treatment by the wet-nurses. The people hearing "daily reports that such things as extracting the eyes and hearts of little children took place at the orphanage, had long had their suspicions excited. It was then discovered that very many of the babies had died of injuries, and they were all of the female sex."

This statement raised a universal outcry of indignation among the people, and though the Chiang-Tu Hsien proved that the deaths were simply from disease, and from nothing else, nothing that officer could do could keep the disturbance down.

The attack on Mr. Taylor's house is truly detestable, but yet there was ground for the angry feeling.

I have instructed Chang Kai-chi, now on this mission, with reference to the language he is to hold in order to pacify the public feeling. He is to tell them that though the deaths from injuries were somewhat numerous, there was no such thing as extraction of eyes or hearts from the corpses, and the fault was with the doctors and wet-nurses, and not that of the missionaries; that the orphanage is wholly the affair of the French Roman Catholic Establishment, and no fault attaches to the English missionaries. By such arguments the Yang-chow people will at once be disabused of their suspicions, and Mr. Taylor's wrongs can be redressed.

I beg you will be good enough as well to disabuse the people, as to quiet the mind of Mr. Taylor, until such time as the matters can be fully investigated. I shall be happy to meet you at Nanking, at your earliest convenience, to consult on the best manner of bringing about a satisfactory conclusion.

Sun, Prefect of Yang-chow, at present at Nanking, is ordered to accompany Chang to Yang-chow, and to treat yourself with the greatest consideration.

You are requested to give your best attention to the above.

Inclosure 4 in No. 3.

Sun, Prefect of Yang-chow; to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 6, 1868.

I AM in receipt of your despatch of this day's date, stating that (quotes it, see Inclosure No. 2.)

On the arrival of Mr. Taylor at Yang-chow, for the purpose of preaching, a proclamation was issued for general information. On the 22nd August some female children were secretly buried by the Orphanage established by the French Missionary, Sechinger (Chin-chien-san), and many corpses were dug up also (? by the Orphanage). Now, there had been rumours floating about among the people, that the eyes and brains had been abstracted from some corpses: the burial of these bodies, therefore, created general indignation.

The people went to Mr. Taylor's house, and raised a disturbance, which I, with the magistrates and military authorities, effectually put down. No injuries were caused to, nor property stolen from, the missionaries, as may be seen from Mr. Taylor's own letter. The brawlers were captured on the spot, and have been punished; and Mr. Taylor has been safely escorted to Chinkiang.

I stated the whole circumstances to Mr. Allen, British Vice-Consul, and to the other Vice-Consuls who came to Yang-chow, and paid me a visit; and I also reported them to his Excellency Tsêng, who has given answer as follows:—

"The British missionaries must not return for several months, for fear of further complications. I will refer the case to the Tsung-li Yamên; and when the Yamên, after consultation with the Foreign Ministers, informs me that it has come to the conclusion that missionaries really do not abstract brains and eyes, I will myself issue a proclamation to that effect to the gentry and people of Yang-chow; after which, the missionaries may return, on receiving intimation that they can do so. They will not then experience any annoyance, confidence will be restored between Chinese and foreigners, and no obstacles will remain. But, if before this proclamation is issued, the missionaries go back, under the mistake that the times are favourable, and irritation arises, it will be too late for them to ask that measures may be taken to protect them, or recover their property. This is not only for the best interests of the people, but of the missionaries also."

His Excellency the Viceroy also states, that he has received your despatch of the 27th August (quotes it), and that he had replied to it (quotes the reply, dated 2nd of September.)

You announce it as your intention to come here in person in a few days; but I must call your attention to the fact that the matter is at an end.

The anonymous placards did not contain anything to point out foreigners as the proper subjects of violence.

Mr. Taylor, according to his Excellency's instructions, must quietly await the decision of the Tsung-li Yamên. I myself am going to Nankin to receive his Excellency's commands in person; and if you take occasion from this complication to present yourself here, I shall not be able to receive you.

The people have already been fully instructed as to their duty, by the Viceroy, and the affair is settled; there is therefore no necessity for your troubling the Senior Naval Officer to accompany you with an escort as you propose, as that might raise suspicions among the people. I have addressed his Excellency in this sense, and now beg your earnest attention to the above.

Note.—The above was written by the Kau-chüan Hsien (as witness his seal), on account of the absence at that moment of the Prefect at Nankin. See the Viceroy's despatch of the same date (Inclosure No. 2.)

W. G. S.

Inclosure 5 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to Sun, Prefect of Yang-chow-foo.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, September 2, 1868.

THE British missionaries, Taylor and others, lately residing at Yang-chow-foo, have laid before me a formal complaint in regard to their violent ejectment from your city,

and they have earnestly entreated me, as Consul for this district, to redress the many and grievous wrongs which they have sustained, and to secure for them peaceable possession of their late home. I have likewise received a Report from Mr. Assistant Allen, furnishing me with particulars of his visit to Yang-chow, and interview with yourself.

I have taken most careful affidavits as to what has occurred, from the lips of four of the principal missionaries concerned. The document is too lengthy to admit of a full version being submitted to you herewith, but the following important facts are clearly set forth therein:—

1. That the premises which the missionaries occupied were procured with your knowledge and consent, signified by an authorization under your seal, and with the approbation, moreover, of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at this port, with whom the lease has been duly recorded.

2. That ever since the missionaries first took up their residence within the city, they have been entirely innocent of any offence against the people, either by word or act, and that they have even borne with exemplary endurance, insults and assaults to which they have been subjected from time to time, rather than hurt or annoy a single individual.

3. That the charges made against them, of stealing and doing away with infants, are not supported by the slightest evidence, but have been got up and spread abroad by malicious persons for the express purpose of defaming their character and setting the people against them.

4. That the gentry are known to be the authors of the reports and inflammatory placards which led to the outrage, the names of the principal men being Yen Fuan-shu, Pien Pao-shu, Li Pao-fu, and Wu Wên-hsi.

5. That the missionaries brought the placards to the notice of the local authorities in repeated and courteously-worded petitions, begging that precautions against an outbreak might be taken, and due protection afforded; and that the local authorities evaded their representations, and took no pains to act upon the missionaries' entreaties, although many days elapsed before the placards took effect.

6. That at length, when the attack upon the Mission premises took place, on the evening of the 22nd of August, and Mr. Taylor and another escaped to the Chih-fu's Yamèn, and earnestly entreated assistance, they were, knowingly and purposely, detained two hours before any movement was made in their favour, while prompt action would have saved the house and property.

7. That the premises were set fire to in several places, and eventually forced in and plundered.

8. That the attack was made by a mob armed with spears, knives, and clubs.

9. That the attack was so violent, that women and young children had to be cast out of the windows to save their lives, two of the women being at the time in a pregnant condition.

10. That while the women were thus endeavouring to escape, bricks and flaming brands were hurled at them to drive them back.

11. That one of the missionaries has lost an eye, that the pregnant women are now lying in a precarious condition, and that the majority of the party have been more or less hurt and bruised.

12. That, after a guard of soldiers was sent on the night of the 22nd, it was again withdrawn, so as to admit of the return of the mob to their work of devastation the following morning.

13. That on one of the missionaries framing a truthful letter to the Chih-fu, earnestly representing the frightful pass things had come to and claiming redress, the Kan-chuan Hsien cruelly and wickedly threatened him with being left to the mercy of the mob unless he so described the affair as not to make it appear a "chiang-an," or a case of plunder with violence, and thereby succeeded in extorting from him a second letter for presentation in place of the first, which utterly misrepresented the facts, characterizing the case as one of simple "tsao-nao" or brawl.

14. That, eventually, after the house had been plundered and the tenants ejected at the risk of their lives, the local authorities failed to give them protection in the Yamèn, and reinstate them, but sent them away in charge of a guard to Chin-kiang.

15. That, after they had been sent away, the Chih-fu, supporting the irregular action of the Hsien, issued a proclamation characterizing the outrage as a simple disturbance.

Such are the facts of the case, and they prove that the local authorities have been guilty of closing their eyes, in spite of repeated petitions and warnings, to a diabolical plan to murder and rob innocent foreigners, and afterwards of combining to misrepresent the nature of the crime committed. The facts further prove that the gentry have been

guilty of instigating the inhabitants to commit plunder, arson, and violence upon a number of peaceable, inoffensive men, women, and children.

The conduct of the Chih-fu and Chih-Hsien I must lay before his Excellency the Viceroy, as well as before my own superior, Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, for adjudication and punishment, according to the laws pertaining to such official derelictions of duty.

The conduct of the gentry and people it is for the local authorities to punish according to the laws provided in such cases.

To this end I have to request the Chih-fu forthwith to seize the persons of those whose names I have hereinbefore given, as well as any others who are known to have taken an active part in the affair, and to punish them according to the law provided for in cases of combining to plunder with violence. Should any of the culprits be members of the belted gentry, whom it is beyond the power of the Chih-fu to issue a warrant against, I must require him to report their names to his Excellency the Viceroy for degradation and punishment.

I have further to call upon the Chih-fu to comply with the following requisitions:—

1. That a sum of 2,000 taels shall be paid to me for distribution amongst the sufferers as compensation;

2. That their house shall be restored to its original condition;

3. That a proclamation shall be issued informing the inhabitants that the perpetrators of the late outrage must be punished according to law; that British subjects shall be at liberty to reside and rent houses at Yang-chow according to Treaty provisions; and that any persons interfering with or molesting them shall receive condign punishment.

4. That a copy of the above Proclamation shall be inscribed upon a stone tablet, which shall be erected upon the spot where the missionaries have been ejected.

5. That an invitation by letter or deputy shall be sent to the missionaries requesting them to return to their houses.

6. That all persons of every kind who have been imprisoned in consequence of their alleged connection with the missionaries shall be forthwith released.

The above facts, and the requisition rendered necessary in consequence thereof, I now place by letter and in person before the Chih-fu, and I trust he will be able to favour me with a favourable reply forthwith, so as to avoid any further and disagreeable complications.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 6 in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM of claims by the members of the China Inland Mission for losses sustained at Yang-chow-foo on Saturday and Sunday the 22nd and 23rd days of August, 1868.

							£	c.
Surgical instruments, and medical and other books	..	..	..	..	..	..	327	0
House injuries	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	0
Furniture, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	0
Bedding-clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	158	0
Watch and concertina	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	0
Sedan-chair	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	0
Sundries	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	50
Miss Degraz's property	..	..	..	..	..	..	124	0
Miss Blatchley's ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	0
Mr. Duncan's ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	0
Mr. Williamson's ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	83	0
Mr. Reid's ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	0
Mr. Rudland's ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	0
Native teachers and servants, in all 17 persons	..	..	..	..	..	£	43	
Clothes, furniture, &c.	..	..	..	..	..		438	
							481	0
							1,612	0

Or, 1,128 taels 40 mace.

I, James Hudson Taylor, hereby declare upon my honour that the foregoing account faithfully represents the value of the losses severally sustained by the members of the China Inland Mission in consequence of the late outrage at Yang-chow-foo, so far as ascertained at the present date; also that I am prepared to substantiate the account

by detailed statements if necessary. I likewise hereby certify that I have undertaken to make good the claims of the teachers and servants in full, and that I have already paid about 200 dollars to them on account.

(Signed) J. HUDSON TAYLOR.

Chin-kiang, September 5, 1868.

Witness to signature:

(Signed) W. H. MEADOWS, *Consul.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 3.

Sun, Prefect of Yang-chow, to Mr. Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 8, 1868.

I AM in receipt of your despatch dated September 2, in which you require the arrest of the gentry concerned in the outrage on Mr. Taylor; and also, 1st, compensation; 2ndly, restoration of the house to its original state; 3rdly, the issue of a Proclamation announcing the severe punishment of the offenders in this case, the right of British subjects by Treaty to rent houses, and live at Yang-chow, and the liability to punishment of every one who molests British subjects; 4thly, the inscription on stone of the aforesaid Proclamation to be placed before Mr. Taylor's house; 5thly, the invitation by letter or deputy to the missionaries to return; and, 6thly, the release of all who have been imprisoned on account of this case.

With reference to the arrest of the belted gentry, I must state that I have not the requisite authority to enable me to satisfy you, and with respect to the other demands, though they contain nothing which I could not comply with, I am under the necessity of referring to his Excellency the Viceroy, as he has ordered me so to do, and I propose accordingly to accompany you to Nanking for this purpose.

Inclosure 8 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, September 17, 1868.

IN my despatch dated the 15th instant, on the subject of the Yang-chow outrage, I carried my narrative of proceedings up to the incident of my return to Chin-kiang on the 8th instand, after having visited Yang-chow. I have now the honour to resume it at that point for your Excellency's information.

On landing at Chin-kiang, I found the Viceroy's deputy, Chang-Chih-sien awaiting me, I had an interview with him forthwith, when I detailed to him all that I had seen and done at Yang-chow. He pressed me earnestly to return thither again in his company, so as to enable him to carry out his instructions, but I was compelled to decline, as I did not see that any good was to be obtained by a second visit, and as it was naturally an object with me not to detain Her Majesty's ship any longer than was imperatively necessary.

I took him, however, to see Mr. Taylor's party in order to afford him the opportunity of questioning them in person, which he did very minutely. Before taking leave I succeeded in persuading him to accompany me to Nanking in Her Majesty's ship, and we parted on the understanding that he was to repair on board the following morning.

When the "Rinaldo" prepared to weigh at the appointed time on the 9th, we looked in vain for Chang-Chih-sien, and having waited half-an-hour we eventually started without him. I was informed afterwards by Mr. Assistant Allen, whom I had instructed to see Chang off, that he did leave the shore for the purpose of joining us, but that pretending to be alarmed at the "wind and tide," although, the morning was a calm one, he had ordered his boatman to put back.

We reached our rendezvous with the Chih-fu of Yang-chow in the course of an hour, and sent the small steamer in for him, as had been arranged on the previous day. But he too proved false, he having left, we were told, an hour earlier for Nanking; we, therefore, proceeded on our way, and arrived at Nanking the same evening.

The Viceroy readily acceded to my request for an interview, and I called upon him on the following morning. He received me with more than customary state, and seemed inclined to be friendly; but I found it exceedingly difficult to rouse his peculiarly impassive and sluggish nature to that appreciation of the serious importance of my object

which I could have wished to see exhibited. It was only after pressing my case again and again upon his notice with much patience and earnestness, that I succeeded in wresting from him a promise that I should have reasonable redress within the next day or two, and that his decision should be communicated to me in writing. I gathered from his remarks that the case had been entirely misrepresented to him by the Chih-fu of Yangchow. He had not been informed that any injury had been received by any member of the missionary party, or that they had lost any portion of their property. Neither had he been furnished with copies of the repeated appeals made by Mr. Taylor to the Chih-fu and the replies thereto, or of the two letters which gave evidence of the compulsion used towards Mr. Taylor by the Kan-chuen-hsien. I carefully pointed out all these facts to him as *prima facie* proof of the culpability and mendacity of the local authorities, and my representation seemed at the moment to attract his attention. But he persisted eventually in falling back on his original promise, and I was compelled to leave the subject there for the time being, and to address him on other matters which I had in hand.

Just before leaving the Yamèn we discovered that the runaway Prefect of Yangchow had that moment made his appearance. I begged the Viceroy to let him come in and answer for himself before me, but his Excellency refused, on the plea that a war of words might ensue which had best be avoided.

Nothing further transpired until the same evening when the Taoutac of Chin-kiang, who happened to be at Nanking in connection with the Chin-kiang troubles, called on board the "Rinaldo," charged with a message from the Viceroy to myself. He staid about two hours, endeavouring to coax me into a consent to forego all further action, provided the Viceroy gave a charitable gratuity to Mr. Taylor of the sum of 1,000 taels, and he urged the very handsome reception with which I had been favoured in the forenoon as a cogent reason why I should on my part treat the Viceroy with all the consideration possible. I deemed it my duty to turn a deaf ear to this overture, but the very anxious tone in which it was urged led me to indulge a hope that the Viceroy was inclined toward concession, and that I might look for a favourable answer on the morrow.

Most unfortunately, just at this juncture, Commander Bush, who had been ailing for some days, fell so seriously ill that he was compelled to return forthwith to Shanghai; and he very naturally signified his intention to take his ship with him. It was out of the question, of course, that I should accompany Commander Bush, so I removed into a friend's house-boat which happened to be on the spot, and hired a Chinese boat for the accommodation of Messrs. Stronach and Allen, and the Chinese writers.

On the morning of the 13th, instead of the formal reply which I had been led to expect from the Viceroy, there came a note from the Chin-kiang Taoutac, a translation of which I have the honour to inclose, simply stating that he had been charged to inform me that his Excellency had been pleased out of his charity to confer a gratuity of 1,000 taels upon Mr. Taylor, and had instructed the Taoutac of Shanghai to hold that sum to my order. No allusion whatever is made in the note to the redress or compensation for which I had asked. I forthwith addressed a reply to the Viceroy direct, thanking him for his benevolence to my suffering countrymen, but inquiring what course he proposed to adopt as regards ordering redress and compensation to be accorded by the authorities of Yangchow-foo.

In the hope of expediting matters, I sent a messenger in early on the following day, the 14th, asking for a second interview. An answer came from the Chin-kiang Taoutac late that evening to the effect that the Viceroy had just received news of his proposed translation to the Viceroyalty of Chihli; that he was too busy to see me; and that the Taoutac had been instructed to hand me a final communication on the subject of Yangchow, which he doubted not would render a further interview needless.

I inclose a copy and translation of the communication so delivered to me, and I doubt not that your Excellency will concur with me in regarding it as conveying a most unsatisfactory solution of the question at issue. Although the letter is evidently intended to discourage all further correspondence as far as I am concerned, I have ventured to reply to it by pointing out, in the plainest language which I could employ consistently with the courtesy due to so high a functionary, the various points in which I conceive his decision to be wanting in that reason and justice which he so authoritatively claims for it; and I trust that the tone and tenor of my communication, a translation of which I have the honour to inclose, may have your Excellency's approval.

It only remains for me now to submit the whole case for your Excellency's superior judgment and authority. I can call to mind, out of my experience of British relations with China, scarcely one instance in which the outrage complained of has been more unprovoked on the part of the sufferers, and in which the evidence of neglect and culpability on the part of the local authorities has been more marked and incontro-

vertible. Few cases can have occurred, moreover, in which the power to grant prompt and reasonable redress was more within the reach of the supreme provincial authority. I sincerely trust, therefore, that I am placing in your hands for adjustment a case in which our grounds of remonstrance may be pronounced radically good; and that if you will find yourself able to secure for it from the Supreme Government at Peking that attention and justice which I conceive the serious importance of the general interests involved must demand.

In closing these Reports of my proceedings in connection with the affair at Yang-chow, I beg to bring to your Excellency's notice, with a view to acknowledgment, if necessary, to Her Majesty's Naval Commander-in-chief, the prompt and valuable assistance tendered to me in my efforts to obtain redress by Commander Bush, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo." But for his sudden and unfortunate illness, I believe that he would have supported me by his presence up to the last, and possibly helped me to secure a somewhat more satisfactory termination to the negotiation. I also am doing but simple justice to Mr. Stronach in stating that his assiduity and accuracy in translating both into and from Chinese proved of the utmost service to me throughout the whole of the lengthy and troublesome correspondence which has to be conducted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

P.S.—I find that I have omitted to inclose in its proper place translation of a letter which I addressed to the Viceroy the evening after I saw him, on the subject of the condition in which I found Mr. Taylor's premises when I went there.

W. H. M.

Inclosure 9 in No. 3.

Tsai, Taoutae of Chin-kiang, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 13, 1868.

I AM commissioned by his Excellency Tseng to express to you his deep commiseration at the losses caused to Mr. Taylor by the populace at Yang-chow having mistakenly destroyed his property, and also at the wound received by Mr. Reid on his right eye. His Excellency proposes charitably to bestow the sum of 1,000 taels to meet the expenses required to replace Mr. Taylor's property and to cure Mr. Reid's eye. His Excellency has ordered the Shanghae Taoutae to hand you this sum for distribution on your return to that port.

I beg you will take this as an intimation of his Excellency's intention.

I am also ordered to return the copy of the correspondence which passed between the Yang-chow authorities and Mr. Taylor.

Inclosure 10 in No. 3.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 14, 1868.

I AM in receipt of your despatch of the 11th instant, relative to the Yang-chow case, in which you state that you had requested the Yang-chow Prefect to attend upon me, and begged me to order him to submit for my perusal a despatch you had handed him on the 8th. (N.B.—Dated 2nd.)

I have also possessed myself of the contents of your letter, received this day, in which you express yourself very much obliged by a bounty of 1,000 taels, and state that you await information as to the demands set forth in your despatch to the Yang-chow Prefect—namely, the degradation of the belted gentry who instigated the outrage, the inscription of a proclamation on stone, and the compensation for personal injuries and loss by destruction and robbery of property.

The Prefect of Yang-chow has supplied me with a copy of your despatch to him.

I must point out that I deputed Chang, Magistrate of Shang-yüan Hsien, to assist you in your examination of the place at Yang-chow, at your own urgent request twice repeated;—your precipitation in coming to see me at Nanking without having investigated the case with Chang cannot, therefore, be considered as other than a breach of

faith. I granted you the interview solely in consideration of the friendly relations which have subsisted for some years.

The gentry were not implicated in the annoyance mistakenly caused to Mr. Taylor by the populace; it was brought on by suspicions among the people who know no better, and these suddenly changed to rage on account of the excessive number of deaths (at the Orphanage). The gentry whose names you give are of high rank, have always acted as becomes their position and experience, and would never wittingly desire to act contrary to a Treaty made by their Sovereign. I can, therefore, take no action with reference to this demand.

As to the proclamation desired, the Yang-chow Prefect will submit for my correction the draft of one before issuing it.

There is no necessity for engraving this proclamation on stone. To ensure its preservation for any length of time it will be sufficient to have it placed on a board of wood which can be exposed during the day for the information of the gentry and people, and taken in at night.

With reference to the value of the property lost and destroyed, and the medical expenses, I have determined to forward through the Shanghai Taoutai to you a bounty of 1,000 taels for distribution among the missionaries, which will be considered as meant for replacing their lost property and the expenses of curing their wounds.

The Prefect of Yang-chow did not, at the first, commit an infraction of Treaty; there is, therefore, no call to report him to the throne for punishment.

I have directed that officer to return to Yang-chow; to restore the missionaries' house to its original condition; and to issue a proclamation informing the inhabitants that the offenders in this case have been punished by the cangue as a warning, that British subjects have the right by Treaty to rent houses and reside in Yang-chow, and that any person molesting or interfering with British subjects will immediately be arrested and punished severely. Mr. Taylor is to be invited to return to his house within a period of two months. The Prefect will also direct the Magistrate at once to release all persons who are in confinement through being implicated in the case innocently.

I have already stated to you at the interview the general bearing of the above remarks, and also sent Ts'ai the Chinkiang Faotai to explain my views more minutely in person. They appear to be reasonable and just.

I earnestly hope that the relations of Chinese and foreigners may remain peaceable, and that the silly populace may not cause further disturbance.

I have addressed the Tsungli Yamèn on this subject, and now communicate this despatch to you as a close to the case.

An important despatch, &c.

Inclosure 11 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan.

Sir,

Shanghai, September 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter, dated the 14th instant, signifying the decision which you have come to in the matter of the Yang-chow outrage.

I observe with great regret that the contents of your letter in no way bear out the promises of a speedy and reasonable adjustment which your Excellency so distinctly pledged yourself to on the occasion of our interview of the 11th instant.

Your Excellency states it as your belief that the gentry whose names were indicated in my letter to the Chih-fu of Yang-chow, could not possibly from their position and experience have been guilty of inciting the people against the missionaries. Such may be your Excellency's opinion, but I think that if you were to institute an honest inquiry on the spot, into all the circumstances of the case, you would discover that your opinion is not founded on fact. It was and still is very generally reported at Yang-chow that the persons I named were at the bottom of the entire movement, and I am told that repeated meetings have been held, both before and since the outrage, by them and others, in one of the public buildings of the city to concert plans for the permanent ejection of the mission. One influential man, whose surname the Tepao gave as Ko, was actually observed amongst the mob inciting them on, and he went so far as to lay hold of the coat of one of the missionaries, and shake him furiously whilst venting the most angry and foul invective against him. So long as the conduct of such deliberate disturbers of

the peace is allowed to pass by unpunished, there can be no security against the recurrence at Yang-chow, or any other locality of evils, such as that for which I am now seeking redress.

As regards the proclamation, the draft of which your Excellency has desired the Prefect to submit for your inspection, you do not inform me whether it is to be based upon the draft with which I have already furnished him. If this is not to be the case I think it but fair that an opportunity should be afforded me likewise for examining it before it is conclusively issued, otherwise I shall be unable to judge in how far that item of my demands has been satisfactorily complied with.

Your Excellency's remarks on my fourth requisition, namely, that the proclamation should be engraven upon stone, shew at any rate that your Excellency concurs with me in the opinion that the perpetuation of the proclamation would be desirable. Why then cavil as to the method of effecting this? Stone is constantly employed by the Chinese authorities in perpetuating the most common cautions and prohibitions where permanent promulgation is an object. It was but reasonable, therefore, that in an important matter like the one under consideration, affecting nothing less than the safety of life and property, I should ask for a commemoration by inscribed tablet.

The next point touched upon in your Excellency's letter is that of compensation for losses and injuries sustained. When the question of a gratuity of 1,000 taels out of your Excellency's own means was first hinted to me by your messenger, the Chinkiang Taoutai, I told him distinctly that if given as a charitable contribution to Mr. Taylor or his Mission I could have no objection to receiving it on such behalf, but if it were to be intended as a substitute for the compensation which I had formerly asked for, I could not think of taking it. That officer's note of the 13th instant, announcing the gift of the above mentioned sum, gave me to understand that the former of the two objects was intended, and accordingly I expressed my high appreciation of your benevolence. Now, however, it seemed that the gratuity is meant as a sort of compromise of the demand in the shape in which I put it before the Chih-fu, and such being the case I have no alternative but to refuse it positively. As I look at the matter, the missionaries are entitled to compensation, or they are not. If they are not, they ought to receive nothing; If they are, the amount stated by me verbally to the Chih-fu (as per memorandum appended) ought to be accepted as the basis of adjustment, until it is proved unreasonable or excessive. It is neither courteous nor just on your Excellency's part thus to attempt to press upon me, under the cover of a charitable gratuity, any less amount which you may arbitrarily decide upon as sufficient.

Your Excellency's observations as to the culpability or otherwise of the Chih-fu are utterly inexplicable to me. I am not aware that I charged him with any infraction of the Treaty. If you will take the trouble to refer to my letter to the Chih-fu, you will see that I have accused the local authorities of closing their eyes, in spite of repeated petitions and warnings, to a diabolical plan to murder and rob innocent foreigners and afterwards of combining to misrepresent the nature of the crime, committed in order to screen themselves from blame. That they committed these faults there is abundant evidence in the copies of the correspondence with Mr. Taylor, in the violence and plunder that ensued,—in the letter extorted from Mr. Taylor by the Kan-Chüan Hsien,—and in the lenient punishment of the cangue afterwards imposed upon four wretched creatures. I maintain, therefore, that they were clearly guilty of dereliction of duty in the strict official sense of the term, and I am astonished that a functionary of your Excellency's known enlightenment and sense of justice, should seek thus to screen the offenders from the blame just imputable to them.

It is gratifying to observe, in the next paragraph of your Excellency's letter, on the subject of the readmission of Mr. Taylor and party to Yang-chow, that the Treaty right to access to and residence within the city is so distinctly admitted. I am at a loss, nevertheless, to comprehend why two months must elapse before Mr. Taylor is to be allowed to avail himself of the privilege. Had your Excellency ordered the Chih-fu to comply with my requisition forthwith, merely premising that I should advise Mr. Taylor to allow the existing excitement time to subside before he ventured to return, I should have felt that you had some reason on your side. But to attempt to confine the inclinations of the people within the bounds of months and days, appears to me to be simply absurd.

The release of all the native prisoners innocently implicated in this unfortunate affair had already been promised me by the Chih-fu when at Yang-chow, so that the single concession which you have thought fit to make, loses much of its value.

I have only further to remark, in respect of your Excellency's observation that I have not kept faith in the matter of the deputy you sent to meet me, that the insinuation

is entirely unmerited. The delay in his appearance was, as you are aware, in no way attributable to any fault of mine, and when I saw you I took care to explain how it came about that he missed me at Yang-chow, and was unable to accompany me afterwards to Nanking. Had your Excellency felt then that I had acted in bad faith, why did you not mention your suspicions to me at the time, instead of introducing it into an official despatch after I had left you?

I am not sorry to observe that your Excellency has furnished the Tsungli Yamèn with a copy of your communication. Copies of this reply, and of all the papers relating to the outrage, will also no doubt reach that department through Her Majesty's Minister, and I confess that I shall be very much surprised if they treat the subject with the so-called reason and justice which it has received at your hands.

Few can wish more than I do that peaceful relations may always exist between the Chinese and foreigners. Your Excellency must be aware, however, that nothing is more calculated to bring about the very opposite effect, than a failure on the part of Chinese officials to restrain and punish the people when they show any propensity to over-ride Treaty privileges and obligations, in an insane desire to indulge antiquated and ridiculous prejudices.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 12 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan.

Sir,

"Rinaldo," September 11, 1868.

REFERRING to the cases of the late outrage at Yang-chow, I must beg your Excellency to call upon the Chih-fu of Yang-chow, whom I duly requested to present himself before you to-day, to place before your Excellency the letter which I have addressed him dated the 2nd instant, and to command him to give me the redress therein required. In addition to the facts therein set forth, I beg to call to your Excellency's notice the fact that, when I arrived at Yang-chow and examined the premises in the company of the Prefect and other local officials, I found that, although the entire premises showed manifest signs of forcible entrance and other violence, all the breaches which the mob had made in the walls had been so cleverly repaired as to have rendered it impossible for me to detect them, had not one of the missionaries' sufferers pointed them out to me; that all traces of fire had been carefully scraped or swept away, and that all debris of furniture and fittings had as far as possible been removed. Mr. Assistant Allen, who had witnessed the condition the house was in the day after the outrage took place, and who saw it again in my company, can bear witness to the vast difference between the appearance of the premises upon the one occasion from that presented upon the other. The report of your Excellency's own deputy, should he visit Yang-chow, must therefore fail to describe the true state of affairs.

I also wish to call your special attention to the fact that the local authorities, when requested by Mr. Allen to visit the premises in his company on the first day, persistently refused to do so. Their evidence as to the condition in which the house was left is therefore not to be depended on. Indeed their whole conduct from first to last has been marked by such culpable neglect and deceit that any statement they may lay before your Excellency must be accepted with considerable distrust.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 4.

Lord Stanley to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have received a despatch from Mr. Consul Medhurst forwarding copies of his correspondence with the Chinese authorities in regard to the recent outrage on British missionaries at Yang-chow-foo. Mr. Medhurst reports having communicated this correspondence to you, and I have to observe that he appears to have acted with great prudence and firmness in the matter; and you will convey to him my approval of his proceedings.

I have to instruct you to press the case in question upon the Chinese Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 5.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 30.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 11, 1868.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of May,* it does not seem to me that any new clause of a Treaty is required to give to British missionaries the right they seek of purchasing land, and residing in all parts of the country. Article VI of the French Treaty is perfectly clear on that point, and what is acquired as a right for French missionaries, is equally acquired, by the favoured-nation clause, for the British, as I have recently had occasion to remind the Foreign Board.

But whether it may be consistent with wisdom or prudence to seek to enforce the right, or practicable to do so in effect, having in view the safety of the missionaries themselves, and the maintenance of peace, order, and good government wherever they may elect to settle themselves, is another question.

The inclosed account of popular violence and hostility manifested in Formosa, and still more recently by the outrage of which a party of missionaries with their families were victims at Yang-chow, and narrowly escaped with their lives from the fanatic mob led on apparently by the literary and educated classes, which Mr. Consul Medhurst has already reported to your Lordship by forwarding copy of his despatches to me on the subject, raise serious doubts as to the practicability of such establishments in the interior of China for some time to come.

The Roman Catholic missions in the interior are not exempt from the same sudden outbreaks of popular hostility; and I believe one of the chief occupations of the French Legation here, consists in pressing claims for redress, and making reclamations on their behalf.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK

Inclosure in No. 5.

Acting Consul Gibson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Taiwan, Takow Office, July 31, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that the Protestant Mission Chapel in Pi-tow, distant from Takow about six miles, has been a second time destroyed (on the 30th instant by the servants of the mandarins of that place.

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I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

No. 6.

Consul Medhurst to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 30.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, October 3, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of my despatches, dated respectively the 24th ultimo and 1st instant, to Her Majesty's Minister respecting the late disturbances at Chin-kiang.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

* Inclosing a letter from the London Missionary Society suggesting that advantage should be taken of the revision of the Treaty with China to insert a clause, conceding to British missionaries the right to reside and to purchase land in all places in the interior of China, as well as at the commercial ports.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, *Shanghai, September 24, 1868.*

IN fulfilment of the promise given in my despatch dated the 15th instant, I have now the honour to continue my narrative of the progress of affairs at Chinkiang, which formed the chief subject of a previous despatch dated the 3rd instant.

The night of the 3rd passed by without the attack upon the foreign quarter which he had been led to expect, thanks to a precaution taken by the local authorities to have the city gates locked and carefully looked to. A curious proof, however, occurred in the course of the day of the timid and temporizing policy resorted to by the authorities in emergencies of this nature. After the attack upon the Yamên of the Taoutae, described in my despatch, the mob repaired to the Yamên of the Hsien and demanded, upon pain of his having the exterior of his premises similarly invaded, that 300 blows should forthwith be inflicted upon Hsia-lu-che, the landlord who had let the house to Mr. Taylor. The Hsien, although aware that the matter was being treated by the Taoutae in consultation with myself, weakly gave his consent, and caused the man to be brought before him; when a mock trial and punishment were gone through the rioters were informed that their wishes had been complied with.

Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" made her appearance, as I have elsewhere reported, upon the 5th instant, and I at once availed myself of her presence to request Commander Bush to call with me, accompanied by a small escort, upon the Tartar General, it being rumoured that the people of the Tartar quarter were still inclined to be troublesome. My object in visiting the General was to request him to punish a Tartar official who had been mainly instrumental in bringing about the disturbance of the 2nd by laying hold of his neighbour, the landlord Hsia-lu-che, and beating him. I also wished to induce the General to issue a proclamation forbidding his men from interfering with British subjects desiring to rent houses within the walls.

The Tartar General at first denied the complicity of his subordinate, or of any of his people in the riot of the 2nd, and he pronounced a proclamation as entirely uncalled for under the circumstances. With a little insistence, however, he yielded both points and gave me a copy of the proclamation to take away with me. I inclose a translation of it.

Just as I was leaving the Yamên the Taoutae with other civil authorities hurried in, and in an alarmed tone strongly deprecated my having charged the Tartar authorities and soldiers with having been concerned in any riot, declaring positively that not a single Tartar was present on the occasion referred to. This was to say the least of it amusing, for only on the day before the Taoutae had assured me that some of the the Tartar troops were amongst his assailants, and that the Tartar officials were continually occasioning annoyance to the civil authorities by their overbearing and turbulent conduct, and he advised me to address the Tartar General direct, requiring him to keep his men under proper restraint.

After having seen the General I communicated a copy of his proclamation officially to the Taoutae begging him to issue a similar notice himself, and to inform me when I might place Mr. Taylor in peaceable possession of his hired house. The Taoutae's reply was to the effect that the question of confirming Mr. Taylor's lease and issuing a proclamation in respect to it had grown into such importance in consequence of recent events that he had determined upon repairing to Nanking in person, and taking the Viceroy's instructions upon the entire subject. Meanwhile, in order to quiet the minds of the people, he had issued a brief proclamation explanatory of the objects of the visit of Her Majesty's ship. I append a translation of this document, which is chiefly remarkable as emanating from a man who prides himself upon having been for some years an attaché of Tsung-li Yamên, and who for a Chinese official possesses unusual intelligence, energy, and appreciation of foreigners.

I heard nothing more of the Taoutae until I met him at Nanking, as reported in another despatch, when he showed me a written reply which the Viceroy had vouchsafed to his representations, and informed me that he had no alternative but to follow out the instructions so received.

A translation of the Viceroy's reply is inclosed herewith. On examining it, I at once discovered that the fact of a formal lease having been executed in favour of Mr. Taylor by all the members of the Hsia family, and of its having been duly recorded in the Consular Archives, and subsequently pronounced by the Taoutae to me personally as a valid document, could not have been represented by the Taoutae to the Viceroy, and

I inquired of the Taoutae why these important features of the case had been withheld. He admitted the omission without hesitation, and excused himself by saying that he had not had the courage to state the whole truth. Under these circumstances I of course declined to receive the Viceroy's decision as conclusive, and the Taoutae eventually entreated me to let the question remain in abeyance until he could see Mr. Taylor at Chin-kiang and consult him as to his willingness to accept the Viceroy's terms.

Here the matter rests at present. Mr. Taylor, whom I saw whilst passing Chin-kiang on my way down, does not appear unwilling to accept another house provided it suits his purpose, and I have advised him, that as the general principle of intramural residence has been so clearly conceded by the Viceroy, it will be to the interest of the mission to accept any compromise which may be offered by the Taoutae upon the basis proposed, rather than to have the discussion indefinitely prolonged with the chance of failing to secure the coveted house after all. It is not improbable, therefore, that the dispute may be amicably adjusted upon these terms.

Before closing this despatch I wish to draw your Excellency's particular notice to the great discrepancy observable between the several modes of treatment adopted by the Viceroy in the Yang-chow and Chin-kiang difficulties. In the former grave charges were brought by me against the Chih-fu and Chih-sien, and the facts of the case sufficed to afford abundant evidence that there had been gross dereliction of duty, even according to a Chinese point of view. Yet these functionaries have been pronounced by the Viceroy to have been entirely free from blame, and he has declined to subject them to any punishment. In the Chin-kiang case, on the other hand, I brought no accusation whatever against the authorities, and the Taoutae was in no way to blame either for the misunderstanding about the house rented by Mr. Taylor, or for the riot which followed; whilst the Chih-sien only carried out the same exclusive policy pursued by the Yang-chow officials, although to a far less reprehensible extent. Yet the Viceroy comments upon the conduct of both functionaries in severe terms, and one of them is only saved from special disgrace by his already having been deprived of his official charge on another account. The inference I conceive to be plain. It is such as to throw grave doubts upon the Viceroy's justice and impartiality, and to lay him open to the suspicion that he has permitted himself to be influenced by the weight and wealth which the Yang-chow people were in a position to bring to bear in order to screen themselves from blame.

I venture further to repeat here a suggestion which I have already had the honour to submit in a former despatch from Hankow on the subject of the memorials in regard to Treaty revision, and which recurs forcibly to my mind in connection with these cases of popular prejudice and official obstructiveness. It is that a thorough and extended publication throughout *all* the provinces by the Supreme Government of our rights and privileges under Treaty is still a desideratum. Although the Convention of Peking fully provides for such a measure, it has never been carried into effect, and it is my belief that until the entire Chinese population, official, literary, and otherwise, is distinctly informed by Imperial proclamation that British subjects are to be acknowledged and treated in a friendly spirit, and that the compact with the British nation was an Imperial act, it is hopeless to expect that our merchants and missionaries will be regarded as otherwise than objects of contempt and suspicion by the people at large.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Proclamation by Lien Pu-lung, Tartar General at Chin-kiang.

(Translation.)

THE soldiers under my command have, as is on record, been prohibited from interfering in any way with the relations between China and foreign countries at Chin-kiang, a place where natives and foreigners come in contact with each other. My soldiers are now prohibited from interfering in any questions raised by the renting by foreigners of houses whether within or without the walls—questions which it lies wholly with the local authorities to deal with in the manner pointed out by Treaty.

Should any dare wilfully to disobey I will forthwith punish him according to law. No lenience will be shown. Be serious!

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Proclamation by Tsai, Taoutae of Chin-kiang.

(Translation.)

September 6, 1868.

CHIN-KIANG being a port open to foreign trade, there has always been a foreign man-of-war stationed here to guard the port. This vessel has just returned, after undergoing repairs at Shanghai. The soldiers Mr. Consul Medhurst took with him into the city to-day belonged to it, and the inhabitants have no reason to be afraid.

This proclamation is issued for the information and guidance of soldiers and people. You are required to pursue your callings in peace, and to refuse to listen to idle stories calculated to arouse suspicion or fear.

Should any person disturb the public mind by concocting rumours he will be at once arrested, brought to my Yamén, and severely punished.

Inclosure 4 in No. 6.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, to Tsai, Taoutae of Chin-kiang.

(Translation.)

September 9, 1868.

I HAVE received and read your two petitions.

With respect to the question of allowing religious establishments within the walls of cities, the Tsung-li Yamén gave their decision on the occasion of a French missionary, during the 4th year of Tung Chih, renting a house at Hwei-chi-hsien, in Chin-kiang. The decision was as follows:—"The erection of religious establishments in the interior has been going on for a long time; but as, in point of fact, the missionaries are all foreigners, when any land is purchased for religious purposes, the deed of sale should state in so many words that the land is transferred to the public estate of the Roman Catholic Mission of the place. The purchase of land in the interior by foreigners as their private property being contrary to Treaty, should still be prohibited."

The deeds issued of late years to French religious establishments in Nankin and Anhwei, have all been conformable to this decision. As Chin-kiang is a port open to foreign trade, and as in Kiang-su and Anhwei the erection of an establishment, and the gift of a public office has been sanctioned, the same rule will apply to Chin-kiang; that is, the lease of a house for religious purposes within the walls is what ought also to be sanctioned.

In this case I have no fault to find with you for taking cognizance, according to Treaty, of the lease by Mr. Taylor of the Hsia family's house.

What is wrong in your conduct is that you, on the repudiation of the lease by the Hsia family, failed to give the proper orders to Wang, Magistrate of Tan-tu-hsien, to bring the case to a satisfactory ending by procuring another house, going hurriedly to Soo-chow instead, while you had promised to Mr. Assistant Allen to give these orders.

That Magistrate Wang should omit to rebuke the Hsia family for giving a lease, and then repudiating it, and also omit to quash all further source of complication by producing another house, is all the reverse of what was required of him. I need not proceed in my examination of Wang's conduct, as he has already been deprived of his appointment for his conduct of another case.

As your own remissness, though culpable, does not justify removal or report to the Throne, I will not take further notice of your request to be allowed employment elsewhere.

Two points in this case ought as a matter of duty to be investigated, and the offenders punished; first, the illegal conduct of Hsia-lu-chih in leasing away the property by stealth; second, the conduct of the women in reclaiming against the lease. But to punish the first would arouse the jealousy of the foreigners, and to punish the woman, Hsia (*née* Li), for her pertinacious preference of the former lessee, would excite the suspicions of the silly populace, and might bring on a commotion.

In the 5th and 6th years of Tung Chih, the French missionary Lei concluded the purchase of the Shuang-liang monastery at An-ching (or Yan-king), but as the gentry and people objected to its being turned into a book office, the local authorities (Foo and Hsien) selected a plot outside the city which he might buy for a church, and found another house inside the city to be leased as an office, and the missionary Lei gladly accepted this. Let this plan be followed at Chin-kiang.

You and the Prefect and Magistrate will rent another and suitable house within the city for Mr. Taylor, and report the result to me. If the foreigner is not pleased with

this plan, I will consult with Mr. Medhurst when he comes to Nanking, and come to some arrangement.

The actual transfer of a house rented for religious purposes from a Chinese, if insisted on, must not be allowed to take place before the whole circumstances are reported to the Magistrate.

Firstly, because the foreign missionaries may not be peaceable, inoffensive men, and may enter into underhand relations for mutual benefit with bad characters.

Secondly, evil-disposed persons might sell land under false title deed, and the missionaries suffer loss by their purchase.

Thirdly, this would be strictly according to the course pursued at Shanghai, where land about to be rented must first be reported for inspection before a legalized deed is granted.

Fourthly, and it also accords with the rule laid down in the Huei-chi case, namely, that purchase for a religious establishment only is to be authorized, not for private tenure.

If these four points be repeatedly pressed on the attention of the Consul and foreigners, they will no doubt give in their adhesion to them.

You must also explain, for the information of everyone, that the propagation of religion is allowed by Treaty, and that no molestation must be offered to the missionaries. Anyone in future concerned in collecting a mob or raising a riot shall not be left unpunished, but whoever he be, whether soldier or citizen, Tartar or Chinese, will at once be arrested and punished for the warning of others.

Inclosure 5 in No. 6.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, October 1, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatch dated the 24th ultimo, I regret to have to report that my last advices from Mr. Assistant Allen state that the inhabitants of Chin-kiang continued to exhibit a malevolent spirit towards foreigners. The Taoutai has caused a Proclamation to be issued, which is word for word a transcript of the rescript he received from the Viceroy, and which formed Inclosure No. 2 in my despatch above referred to; but it has been answered by inflammatory placards threatening to burn any house let to a foreigner within the walls, and to treat in the same way the Yamèn of any official who may in obedience to the Viceroy's instructions countenance a lease of the kind. I have in consequence represented to Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer the urgent necessity of there being a man-of-war stationed at the port, at any rate so long as the present excitement continues.

Your, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 7.

Lord Stanley to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of September, stating your opinion that no further Treaty provision is required to give to British missionaries the right of purchasing land and residing in all parts of the country.

Her Majesty's Government trust, however, that in the exercise of such right British missionaries will conduct themselves with circumspection, and, bearing in mind the feelings and character of the Chinese authorities and people, do their utmost to avoid occasion of collision; and, instead of pressing for a recognition of their rights by local authorities, who may be inclined to disregard them, suspend for a time all controversy, and submit their complaint to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

By this course, at all events, the decision of the case would be removed from the influence of local passion and prejudice; and it will be for Her Majesty's Minister, if satisfied of the propriety of doing so, to insist with the Central Government, as a matter in regard to which the responsibility rests with that Government, that they shall control the local authorities.

In the same manner, if any unprovoked outrage should be committed on British

missionaries, Her Majesty's Minister would appeal to the Government at Peking, and require that the local magistracy, who may have connived at or instigated the act, shall not only be duly punished, but should also be compelled, out of their own resources, to make ample compensation to the sufferers.

It would, doubtless, prove a great check on local authorities if, in all cases where the interference of the Central Government has been appealed to with success in behalf of injured British missionaries, notice of the case should be published in the official Gazette, with an intimation that the publication is designed as a warning of the displeasure with which the Government will view any wrong done to such British subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 8.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 6.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 12, 1868.

WITH reference to Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatches of the 27th and 31st of August, the 3rd, 15th, and 24th of September, and 1st of October, addressed to me in succession, and copies of which he informs me were transmitted direct to the Foreign Office, reporting a series of outrages at Yang-chow offered to a party of missionaries, and similar violence and evidence of hostility at Chin-kiang, I have the honour to forward copies of my replies to the Consul.

Your Lordship will have seen by Mr. Medhurst's despatch of the 17th of September, that in consequence mainly, I believe, of his prompt and decided action, and the material support afforded by the presence of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," there seemed a fair prospect of full redress for the injuries suffered, and security for the future being obtained, when the sudden resolution of Commander Bush to return to Shanghae with his ship, the only one on the spot, left Mr. Medhurst in a humiliating and helpless position, obliged to take refuge in a house-boat, and deprived of all the moral influence and prestige which the presence of the ship of war gave. The result was precisely what might have been surely anticipated by any one in the least degree conversant with Chinese tactics and character. From that moment all negotiation was at an end, and the Viceroy at Nanking, turning a deaf ear to remonstrances, offered to bestow 1,000 taels in charity, and intimated to the Consul that he was too busy to see him again on the subject.

So far as I am informed, Commander Bush's ill health was the motive for this sudden removal of the ship, regardless of the injury that must result to the public interests by such a step. Nor am I informed whether Her Majesty's Consul entered any official protest or otherwise took care to make the Commander understand all the injurious consequences which would inevitably follow his retreat from the scene of action at the most critical moment for the success of the negotiations. If Mr. Consul Medhurst performed this part of his duty, it will remain for Commander Bush to justify his action in the face of such a protest. I cannot admit that his own ill health, grave or otherwise, was any sufficient justification, since it appears to me that unless he wanted further medical advice, or to be attended to on shore, he was just as well on board his ship in the Yangtsze as at Shanghae, and certainly in quite as good a climate in a sanitary point of view. If, on the contrary, he desired to be on shore, or to have further medical advice at Shanghae, large steamers, with the best accommodation, were almost daily passing, and could have afforded him the necessary facilities for returning without the necessity of taking away his ship and leaving the Consul to certain failure, with the necessity of recommencing the negotiations later, under far less favourable conditions, and with a much greater display of force.

This is the necessary result of Commander Bush's action. I must now place the matter in the hands of the naval Commander-in-Chief, Sir Henry Keppel, and call upon him to repair the mischief by sending such a force to the mouth of the Grand Canal as shall enable him, if necessary, to apply effective pressure, both on the local authorities and populace at Yang-chow and on the Viceroy at Nanking, to whom the Consul will be directed again to address himself, and renew his demands for redress, including the punishment of all offenders, so soon as the Vice-Admiral is prepared to sustain his negotiation. Should the authorities, contrary to my hopes, prove obstinate and

recalcitrant, I have the strongest conviction the time has arrived when it will no longer be possible to avoid a collision, and a resort to such determined pressure as shall compel the local authorities to respect and uphold our Treaty rights. They have long shown a great disposition to treat with neglect all complaints, and either to invite or tacitly connive at popular violence and hostility towards foreigners; to the regret, I believe, of the Central Government, and, to all appearance, without regard to their instructions.

This only makes it the more imperative on the Treaty Powers to take the matter into their own hands, and deal decisively with the local and provincial authorities. There is too much reason to fear that the Viceroys of the maritime provinces, having now gun-boats and drilled troops under their orders, are puffed up by a false idea of their power to resist; and however little either the ships or the ill-drilled levies may be worth in conflict with foreigners, they are foolish enough to think they may disregard all Treaty obligations with impunity, and are even prepared, in the exercise of their *quasi* independent authority, to run all risks on their own responsibility. Perhaps they calculate that if successful, the Central Government will easily condone their disregard of orders forced from the Tsung-li Yamén by the pressure of foreign Representatives at Peking; and although I have no certain evidence of insincerity here, it is only too much in accord with all past experience that they should fail in the energetic assertion of their proper authority over the high officers in the provinces, looking to the double chance of gaining in the end: that is, if the local authorities are coerced and humbled by a foreign Power, they will for some time to come be less dangerous and troublesome, both to the Government at Peking and to us. If, on the contrary, they prove too strong, and hold their own against any pressure brought to bear upon them, foreign Powers may become less exigent in regard to the assertion of Treaty rights. In a word, it is to be feared that local and central authorities alike, but especially the former, forget that there is a limit to the longanimity of the most peace-loving Power, and require a repetition of the lesson so often received by their predecessors, which only can be given by steady and determined employment of means of coercion. Whether the seizure of a high officer at his post, who absolutely refuses to do justice or respect Treaty rights, as in Yeh's case, or some less decisive action may be necessary, must be determined according to circumstances. As regards Yang-chow, it is probable that a simple blockade of the mouth of the Grand Canal, stopping all the junk salt trade—in which the literati, gentry, and local authorities are all deeply interested—would, within forty-eight hours, bring them each in their turn, to a due sense of their obligations, and the folly of their attempts by violence to resist our just demands. But whatever be the means, recent occurrences in Formosa, at Yang-chow, and at Chin-kiang, have plainly shown the necessity for decisive action.

The popular outbreak at Chin-kiang is nothing but an extension of the impulse derived from the seeming success of the violent attacks on inoffensive missionaries at Yang-chow, with which city Chin-kiang is in close sympathy by trading and other interests. The practical denial of all redress by Tsêng Kwo-fan, the Viceroy at Nanking,—his contemptuous dismissal of the subject, and refusal to receive Mr. Medhurst as soon as he knew that the latter had been left stranded on the bank by the only ship of war at his disposal, has of course greatly encouraged the reactionary party, and unless the inclosed requisition on the Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai be promptly answered by the dispatch of a vessel to Chin-kiang, it is impossible to say where the mischief will stop, or how costly will be the effort we shall be called upon to make to recover lost ground. I cannot help feeling that a heavy responsibility lies upon Commander Bush, whose action in the precipitate withdrawal of his vessel has mainly brought about this untoward state of affairs, the more to be regretted, because it is for the time irremediable. Some ten or fifteen days must elapse before any despatch of mine can reach the Naval Commander-in-Chief, who I believe is either at Hong Kong or Singapore at the present moment. I have no doubt that, as soon as he learns from me what is the true position of affairs, he will lose no time in repairing to the scene in person, and that he will promptly take such measures in support of my demands as may be found needful. But his Excellency Tsêng Kwo-fan will in the meantime have left Nanking for his new post as Governor-General of the Province, and some weeks must of necessity be lost before any steps can be taken by the Consul to renew his demands, during all which time the local authorities and our most active enemies the literati and gentry will be exulting in a seeming triumph of violence over right, and be all the less amenable to reason or peaceable efforts for redress when the hour for exacting it arrives. This is not the Consul's fault, who was successful as long as he was supported, and only failed when all material force was withdrawn. I think it only due to Mr. Medhurst to say that he showed both energy and good judgment in all his proceedings, and a very laudable

promptitude in grappling with the difficulties of the situation, as well as firmness and moderation in the demands he made for redress.

As regards any action here, I have twice been in conference with the members of the Tsung-li Yamên. The first time Wên-tagên and Tan-tagên came to the Legation on the 19th ultimo, and while deprecating any foregone conclusions until they themselves had advices from the authorities on the spot, they admitted without hesitation that, assuming the facts to be as I represented, full redress must be secured, and they agreed to place in my hands instructions to that effect addressed to the Viceroy Tsêng Kwo-fan, to be forwarded by steamer with my despatch to Mr. Medhurst.

On the 8th instant, having received Mr. Medhurst's report of the failure of his negotiations from the causes already referred to, and the Prince of Kung's reply to my despatch of the 17th of September, I proceeded to the Yamên, and saw the Prince together with the other members of the Board. After the collapse into which the Consul had been thrown by causes over which he had no control, the one important object I had in view was to reopen the whole question it had been the Viceroy's design to close, by insisting upon an inquiry being instituted at Yang-chow, which should be conducted in concert with the Consul, and by an officer of at least equal rank, with full power under instructions from the Yamên, to carry his investigation into the conduct of the Prefect and Che-Hsien, and also the literati and the gentry inculpated. This was, after some discussion as to the discrepancy between the accounts sent by the Viceroy and the Consul, conceded. And having impressed upon the Prince and his colleagues the necessity for a searching and honest inquiry into all the facts with punishment of the offenders whatever their rank or position, together with such security for the future as their punishment could alone secure, in all which they generally concurred, I merely alluded to the similar outbreaks at Chin-kiang, and preceding acts of violence at Taiwan, in Formosa, observed that the same reasoning applied to all.

I am now waiting for the reply to my written communication sent in the next day, copy of which is herewith inclosed, to write to the naval Commander-in-chief and claim such effective support of the Consul as can alone avail to put a stop to these dangerous examples of popular violence and official connivance, and prevent the tendency of these centres of commotion to widen their sweep until all the places to which foreigners have access become unsafe as places of resort or residence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, September 19, 1868.

REFERRING to your despatches of the 27th and 31st of August, and the 3rd instant, I have to inform you that the Tsung-li Yamên have assured me justice shall be done in the matter of these outrages; and I count upon you, with the support of the senior naval officer, to have impressed the local authorities, and the Viceroy himself, with a conviction of the necessity of an example being made, both of the instigators to the disturbances and the magistrates who so ill discharged their duty in protecting the foreigner. For greater dispatch the inclosed instructions to the Viceroy at Nanking have been forwarded through me for immediate dispatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, October 9, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 24th of September and 1st of October, reporting the unsatisfactory state of affairs at Chin-kiang, I inclose, under flying seal, for your perusal prior to delivery, an official requisition addressed to the senior naval officer at Shanghae for a gun-boat to be stationed at Chin-kiang without delay, to remain there until farther steps can be taken for the security of British interests.

I may state for your information in the meantime that, in a long interview with the Prince of Kung and the other members of the Tsung-li Yamên yesterday, I endeavoured to impress upon his Imperial Highness and the Board the necessity for immediate and vigorous steps on the part of the Government here to put down the turbulent spirit which has been manifested so unprovokedly against foreigners, both at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang; and for a full measure of justice, not only by the redress of the injuries inflicted on the missionaries concerned, but by the punishment of all, of whatever rank or position, who can be shown to have been culpably implicated in the violence offered to them.

The result has been so far satisfactory that it has been determined to institute a searching and honest inquiry on the spot into all the circumstances, and I am assured the punishment of those responsible for any wrong done shall surely follow, together with compensation to the missionaries, and their restoration to the places from whence they have been ejected.

I stipulated that this investigation should be conducted by an officer specially deputed by the Viceroy of Nanking, under instructions from the Tsung-li Yamên, and of a rank at least equal to your own; the inquiry to be conducted in your presence, or in concert with you, that you may, as prosecutor, produce whatever evidence you think necessary to elicit the truth and lead to the conviction of all aiders and abettors in the violence of the mob, not excluding the Prefect and Che-Hsien, who are charged with neglect of duty, if not direct collusion with those who disturbed the public peace.

I expect in a day or two to receive the written answer of the Prince, announcing the dispatch of instructions to this effect, when I will communicate farther with you as to your co-operation on the spot with the Commissioner deputed to conduct the inquiry. It will be my duty to take care you have adequate support from Her Majesty's navy, and with this object I propose addressing the naval Commander-in-chief, that he may direct such measures to be taken to that end as shall be deemed necessary to provide for all contingencies.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 8.

Sir R. Alcock to the Senior Naval Officer, Shanghai.

Sir,

Peking, October 9, 1868.

THE official reports which reach me of the hostile spirit shown to foreigners at Chin-kiang, in connection probably with what must for the present appear the successful outbreak against the missionaries at Yang-chow, render it essential that there should be at least a gun-boat stationed at Chin-kiang until further steps can be taken for the protection of British interests. I trust, therefore, you will have no difficulty in making this provision. If there be any gun-boat in the Yang-tsze at this moment, there is no call for its presence at either of the other ports to interfere with its immediate transfer to the more southern station. I am about to address the Naval Commander-in-chief on this subject, and also to request material support of the most efficient kind in prosecuting the claims for redress which I am now preparing upon the Chinese Government. As soon as I receive the final answer from the Foreign Board I shall be able to determine the nature of the measures to be taken, and I propose forwarding my despatch to Sir H. Keppel under cover to you, that, being on the spot, you may adopt such measures in furtherance of the public objects in view as may be in your power without farther delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 8.

The Prince of Kung to Sir R. Alcock.

(Translation.)

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication.

In the matter of the disturbances in which Mr. Taylor was involved at Yang-chow, the Prince having received on the 19th September your Excellency's account of the plundering and incendiarism committed by the Yang-chow populace, together with a copy of Mr. Medhurst's representation (to the Viceroy), sent copies of these to the

Minister Superintendent at Shanghai with orders to him to depute a trustworthy official to investigate the case thoroughly in conjunction with the local officials, so as to bring this case to an end; to establish friendly relations between the missionaries and the populace, and to prevent the further spread of like occurrences. To your Excellency's further communication the Prince would not reply until he was in receipt of a reply from Shanghai.

He has now received from the Minister Superintendent a despatch to the effect that the deputed officer, Chang, had reported that inquiries showed that the house had not been burnt, and that foreigners had been injured; also that Mr. Consul Medhurst, the Taoutac of Chin-kiang and the Prefect of Yang-chow, had settled the matter among them. It would appear that the missionary Li (Reid) had already quite recovered from the very slight injury done to his eye; that for the damage wrongfully done to Mr. Taylor's house, for demolition and loss of property, and for medical treatment of personal injuries, a sum of 1,000 taels should be paid by the Shanghai Taoutac; that Mr. Taylor's house should be thoroughly repaired; that a proclamation should be issued, distinctly stating, for the information of all, that British subjects had a Treaty right to reside within the city of Yang-chow, and that any one causing trouble or molesting them would be liable to condign punishment; that within two months Mr. Taylor should be requested to return to his former residence; that the affair grew out of the people's own suspicions, sundry of the offenders having already been punished as a warning, the gentry having nothing to do with it; that the gentry indicated were men of high rank, and incapable of wilful disregard of Treaty provisions, for which reason they need not be called to account; that the Yang-chow Prefect had not broken the Treaty, and need not be denounced, &c.

The Minister Superintendent states that he communicated with Mr. Consul Medhurst both personally and in writing.

It seems to the Prince that these troubles were caused, in the first instance, by the very numerous deaths which occurred at the French Orphanage. An ignorant populace got hold of stories about digging out eyes, and extracting brains, their suspicions became anger, and in a moment of excitement they wrongfully made disturbances at Mr. Taylor's.

The Minister Superintendent states that he has ordered the local authorities to repair the missionaries' house, they returning to reside at Yang-chow as before.

Among the whole number of men and women but one was slightly injured, and a sum of money has been bestowed to provide medical treatment, and in compensation for articles lost and despoiled, while the actual perpetrators of the outrage have been punished in the "cangue."

This course of action seems to the Prince to fulfil Treaty provisions, one which could satisfy missionaries and the people, and to be in accordance with what justice requires. He now transmits a copy of the Viceroy's letter to Mr. Medhurst, and a copy of the report made by Chang Kai-chi to the Viceroy, and begs that Mr. Medhurst may be instructed to close the case. It may be that missionaries will be reconciled, and that no such causes of offence will again arise.

On his part the Prince will instruct the Viceroy at once to issue a Proclamation for general circulation at Yang-chow, enjoining all gentry and people alike that there are to be no more such disturbances. Thus Treaties will be respected and friendly relations consolidated.

The Prince trusts your Excellency will concur with him, &c.

Inclosure 5 in No. 8.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

THE Report of Ch'ang Kai-Ch'i, the Deputy sent by the Viceroy to meet Mr. Medhurst.

The Deputy received his instructions to proceed to Chin-kiang on the 6th September (at 7—8 P.M.). He was to inquire into and report on the state of affairs at Yang-chow. He had copies of Mr. Medhurst's two letters to the Viceroy and of his Excellency's replies. He took his departure on the 7th September, and reached Chin-kiang at midnight on the 8th, when he was told that Mr. Medhurst had left that morning for Yang-chow. On the 9th he hastened to Kua chow. He met Mr. Medhurst *en route*, and returned with him to Chin-kiang. He asked Mr. Medhurst why, after having requested a Wei-yuen might be sent to Chin-kiang, he had not waited his arrival. Mr. Medhurst made no reply. Mr. Medhurst told him that the missionaries' house had

not been burnt, but that the partitions had been damaged, and there were marks of brickbats on the walls; that only the furniture of the downstairs rooms remained, and that this had been sealed up by the Prefect, and that there was no need of any further inspection of the premises. When the Deputy wished to see and inspect the people, he was told that he should see them when they could be all summoned. Subsequently, he saw and conversed with Mr. Allen, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Lang, and others. From them he learnt that the missionary whose eye had been injured had gone to Nanking. He was told, too, that the women who had jumped from the windows, and who were then assailed with bricks, &c., were in the ninth month of their pregnancy. It seemed to him that in such a case there would have been delivery, and he inquired for the dead infants. Mr. Taylor replied that the ladies had not been delivered, though they were expecting their confinement. It seems to the Deputy, as fourteen days had elapsed and no harm had come to these pregnant ladies, that Mr. Taylor's statement of their jumping from the windows was made on hearsay evidence only. The wounds and bruises they are said to have received from bricks, &c., could not be exhibited through feelings of delicacy, though the Deputy wished to send for an experienced female from the Tai-ta-hsien. When he inquired after the other wounded, he was told that they were all recovered, and that he need not be at the trouble to examine them. The Consul produced no wounded people, and the charges to that effect are unsubstantiated. He asked Mr. Medhurst to go to Yang-chow, but Mr. Medhurst said he had been; that the house had not been burnt, and that he would not go again, nor would he send a deputy.

He agreed to go with Mr. Medhurst to Nanking on the 10th September. He started very early on the morning of that day for Yang-chow, saw that the house had not been burnt, and was told by the neighbours that the Kan-chien-hsien had sent the missionaries' property after them by boat to Chin-kiang. All denied that acts of incendiarism had been committed. As the Prefect had gone to Nanking, and the steamer was waiting, the Deputy left without seeing the local magistrates. He made straight for Kua-chow, but the steamer had left. He was detained on his road by contrary winds, and reached Nanking on the 12th September.

Inclosure 6 in No. 8.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, October 9, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Imperial Highness' letter of the 7th instant on the Yang-chow disturbances; and referring to our conversation at the Tsung-li Yamên yesterday, I deem it unnecessary to enter into details in reply. I have already communicated verbally the grounds of my dissatisfaction at the result of the reference made to his Excellency the Viceroy at Nanking by Mr. Consul Medhurst, and of the action taken by that high officer.

In consequence, it has accordingly been agreed that a full and impartial inquiry shall be instituted on the spot by a competent officer to be deputed by the Viceroy under instructions from the Yamên, of at least equal rank to the Consul, and with full powers to investigate any charges that may be brought by the Consul, whether against the Prefect and Chih-hsien or any of the literati and gentry, in order that the truth may be elicited and justice done. That an unprovoked outrage of the most serious character has been perpetrated upon the missionaries, with injury to their persons and loss of property in open violation of Treaty, has been placed beyond all doubt. The only matters for investigation on the spot, therefore, have reference to the circumstances under which the violence was offered, the degree of injury suffered, the amount of compensation due, and the culpability of the several parties concerned. The arrest and punishment of all the persons implicated,—whether the active agents among the mob who sacked the house and attacked the inmates—their instigators and abettors among the better classes, are essential if there is to be any security for the future. The authorities who are likewise charged with having failed to perform their duty in preventing such disorders and protecting the British missionaries, must answer for their conduct.

Immunity to such offenders, more especially if high placed, is wholly incompatible with the Treaty rights of foreigners, and fatal to the best devised measures of protection on the part of the Chinese Government. If such charges can be established by sufficient evidence, I need not insist upon the necessity of their removal and punishment as the only means of doing justice, or averting the recurrence of similar outrages at Yang-chow or elsewhere. Already the bad influence of the violence of the mob, and inertness or

collusion of the local authorities at Yang-chow, has made itself felt at Chin-kiang, and led to similar outbreaks. In Formosa the same grounds of complaint exist, as I stated yesterday, and demand similar remedies. It is in the interest of peace and for the maintenance of friendly relations between the two countries that measures of energetic repression are called for, and none can be so effective as the prompt and severe punishment of all who have taken part in the outrages, irrespective of their rank or wealth.

As soon as your Imperial Highness acquaints me that the necessary order will be sent to his Excellency the Viceroy at Nanking to depute an officer of adequate rank and authority to conduct the inquiry, I will forward instructions to Mr. Consul Medhurst to hold himself in readiness to proceed to Yang-chow and to assist in the inquiry, which I can only hope, in the common interest, will be searching and honest, and so conduce to the firm establishment of peace and good order.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) R. ALCOCK.

No. 9.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 6.)

My Lord.

Shanghai, October 22, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch to Her Majesty's Minister, dated the 15th instant, covering translation of a letter from his Excellency Viceroy Tsêng on the subject of redress to be given in the matter of the Yang-chow outrage, as reported in despatches of the 8th and 23rd September last to your Lordship's address.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, October 15, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatches of the 17th September and 1st October last, I have now the honour to inclose translation of a communication which I have just received from his Excellency Viceroy Tsêng, on the subject of the redress to be given in the matter of the Yang-chow outrage, and which, it is very gratifying to observe, conveys a somewhat more favourable decision as regards two points, at any rate, out of the eight urged by me, viz., the grant of a sufficient sum of money to the sufferers, and the punishment of the local authorities.

With regard to the injuries and wounds sustained by the female members of the Mission, on the improbability of which the Viceroy seems to lay such great stress, I must in justice to myself remark that I was informed that they were of such a nature, more especially in the case of Mrs. Taylor, as to preclude the possibility of personal inspection, or even particular inquiry, on my part, and there were no medical men on the spot to whom I could very well apply for the survey pronounced as so essential by the Viceroy. To have taken the opinion of Chinese female experts would have been, as your Excellency will no doubt agree with me, a simple absurdity. The only injury of the existence of which I was able to satisfy myself was that received by Miss Blatchley, who sustained a fracture of the outer prominence of the elbow joint.

Mr. Reid's hurt was entirely confined to the eye. After the external inflammation which had supervened upon the infliction of the blow had subsided, the eye showed no outward signs of injury, and the Viceroy might very easily have concluded that "the wound was merely a slight one." But Mr. Reid assured me that he was unable to see clearly with the affected eye, and Mr. Taylor gave it as his opinion that the nerve had been so severely injured as to make it more than probable that the sight would, ere long, be lost altogether.

Taking all these facts into consideration, I scarcely think that my estimate for compensation for injuries received can be pronounced as in any way excessive.

I have done no more than acknowledge the receipt of the Viceroy's letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

October 8, 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th September, in which you express great regret that the decision in my despatch dated the 14th September in the matter of the Yang-chow outrage is not a speedy and reasonable adjustment, and in which you offer remarks upon the several points. I am also in receipt of a communication from the Tsung-li Yamèn, forwarding copies of the correspondence of the British Minister with reference to the affair.

I now proceed again to offer you observations on each point.

1. In my former despatch I stated that the gentry whose names you gave are of high rank, have always acted as becomes their position and experience, and were certainly not guilty of inciting the people against the missionaries. In the majority of cases it is the graduates, and those who have purchased degrees, who are the leaders of riots. Those indicated by your despatch have held actual office of the second, third, and fourth ranks, and are not of the class above described. Is it possible that men who have held high office should show ignorance of affairs, whilst the graduates and purchased-degree men, a numerous class and endowed with small experience, should show intimate knowledge of affairs (by abstaining from disturbance)? Further, the disturbance took place in the Chiang-tu and Kan-ch'üan Hsiens, while the four gentlemen are of the I-ching Hsien. Are the gentry of I-ching Hsien the only ones to show ignorance, while the men of all the other seven Hsiens in the Hang-chow Prefecture are highly experienced? These two arguments are easily understood. The four gentlemen have become obnoxious to suspicion simply on account of their very high rank. The British Minister evidently quite understands this, as in his note to the Tsung-li Yamèn, copy of which has been sent me, his Excellency makes no mention of the allegation that these four gentlemen incited the people.

The severe stricture you pass upon one named Ko, coincides more with the statement you make (*scil.*, of some prominent men being the inciters), but I do not know more than the surname of this Ko, and I cannot tell whether he is a graduate, and neither did you or the Prefect of Yang-chow mention him before. I have directed that Prefect to find out the facts about the man, and I will punish him severely. I think you need harbour no further suspicions with respect to the four gentlemen.

2. In my former despatch I said that the Yang-chow Prefect should submit for my correction a draft of a proclamation before its issue, and to ensure preservation for any length of time, all that was necessary would be to paste it on a board. You now desire an opportunity of examining it before it is conclusively issued, and also demand its inscription on stone. I can assure you that any proclamation issued by me will be conformable to Treaty stipulations, will satisfy what is required by our friendly relations, and will be eminently calculated to promote the interests of the missionaries. Another reason for refusing to submit the draft for your inspection is, that it is a matter in which China is giving information and guidance to its gentry and people.

Hitherto no governmental documents emanating from the Emperor have ever been cut on tablets. What are so treated are matters half official and half private, as the building of or repairs to temples, bridges, or roads, or the fixing of the rate of ground-rent in money and grain. The stipulation in the Treaty allowing missionaries to preach has been made known everywhere, according to the Imperial orders, and there is, therefore, no necessity for cutting it on stone. If it were allowed in Yang-chow, the mission-stations at Chin-kiang, Nanking, Anching, and all other places, could likewise get stones so inscribed. As it is not provided for in the Treaty, the demand cannot be characterized as reasonable, and it is impossible for me to comply with it. I may remark, too, that China, having been long on friendly terms with foreign countries, this sort of inscription would in an uncalled-for manner perpetuate the memory of the affair, like the cicatrice of a great sore. It is far better to leave nothing which may embitter the feelings.

3. The Treaty contains an Article by which the arrest and punishment of robbers, and the recovery of the stolen property, is stipulated for; but there is no mention of compensation. If, indeed, the men who committed the robbery can be indicated by name, they will be forced to deliver up their booty by castigation or fine. This may be described as either "recovery of the stolen goods" or "compensation." But as the names of the guilty parties are not obtainable, any money that I may give Mr. Taylor's party on behalf of the people of the district may well be termed a charitable gift. Tsai, Taoutae, in his note to you distinctly announced that the money I offered was for the purpose of replacing the lost property, and for defraying Mr. Reid's medical expenses. Whether it be called compensation or gratuity, the money shall only be given on one account; if given as a gratuity, no other sum shall be granted as compensation.

As to the actual amount of money, I had a month ago no detailed statement from you of the loss by robbery. I had only heard that the number of things lost was very small, and that Mr. Reid's wound was extremely slight, and I concluded that 1,000 taels would be ample. Your statement, now before me, shows a loss of 1,612 dollars. The medical expenses, which are not included, seem rather excessive. However, as the mere money is a small matter, I will make no difficulty in increasing the amount wherever it may benefit our friendly understanding.

With respect to Mr. Reid's wound, it was merely a slight one; and as to the wives of Messrs. Taylor and Rudland, I must deny their having been wounded at all. This is a very important point; for if they were burnt, how was it that you, after twice demanding that an officer should be sent with you to Chin-kiang and Yang-chow, did not, when that officer, Chang Kai-chi, arrived at Chin-kiang, hold joint inspection on the spot? Chang pressed Messrs. Taylor and Duncan repeatedly to let female experts view the injuries, but was met by long excuses on Mr. Taylor's part, who at last stated that the injuries were solely internal, and begged him not to hold an inspection. Taking a wide view of the circumstances, it may be concluded that the women really had no hurt, though there may have been at the time some report that they had. Mr. Stronach, the Interpreter, when he came here the other day, agreed with me that nothing further need be said about the injuries to the pregnant women.

The sum of 770 taels for medical expenses will, therefore, have to be largely reduced.

4. The statement in my former despatch that the Yang-chow Prefect did not at first commit an infraction of Treaty has raised a suspicion in your mind that I am screening my subordinate officers. My way with those under me is to take note of their character and disposition, as shown by their daily conduct, and of their talents and tact by their conduct in an emergency. I can aver from their daily conduct that the Yang-chow Prefect and Magistrate have no disposition to make light of foreigners, still less to commit a breach of Treaty. When the populace committed the outrage on the Mission, Prefect Sun showed that his talents and tact were insufficient for an emergency, by failing previously to the outbreak to take precautionary measures, and by exhibiting a want of resources on the instant. When he did get news of it, he went in person to repress the disturbance, sent an escort with the missionaries across the river to Chin-kiang, and engaged coolies to move their baggage, which weighed 120 piculs. His merit in this, which is of a piece with his ordinary disposition to treat missionaries with great rather than little consideration, may rank as a considerable set-off. However, the inability of the local authorities to avert disaster, in spite of the two warning letters of Mr. Taylor, has brought about serious consequences. I have discharged Prefect Sun from his office and replaced him by Chao; Magistrate Wang replaces Li, who is discharged from being Magistrate of Kan-chüan Hsien. These changes will set at rest the minds of the missionaries, and will consolidate the bonds of amity.

No. 10.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 16.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 15, 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, dated the 5th November, reporting the arrangements he has made for sending a force to demand satisfaction from the Viceroy at Nanking for outrages committed on British subjects at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang.

I also forward a copy of the orders given by Sir Henry Keppel to Captain Heneage, of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," to proceed to Nanking on this service; also an extract of a letter from Commander Bush, late of Her Majesty's sloop "Rinaldo," reporting his reasons for leaving Nanking.

It is presumed that copies of the other inclosures to Sir Henry Keppel's letter will have been received at the Foreign Office from Sir Rutherford Alcock.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMANE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Saigon, November 5, 1868.

IN paragraphs 19 to 26 of my general letter of the 19th October, I had the honour of acquainting their Lordships with the state of affairs at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang, reporting outrages committed apparently under the auspices of the authorities on British subjects.

2. The accompanying letter from Her Majesty's Minister in China* will more fully acquaint their Lordships with the nature of the claims for redress which are about to be repeated by Mr. Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy at Nanking.

3. Sir Rutherford Alcock having in that letter applied to me for effective support in order that the demands shall be exacted if persistently denied to more peaceable efforts, I have the honour to inclose, for their Lordships' information, a copy of my reply to Sir Rutherford Alcock, giving cover to the instructions I have addressed to Captain Algernon Heneage, who accompanies Her Majesty's Consul to Nanking with the "Rodney," "Rinaldo," and "Slaney."

4. The Minister's requisition having reached me after my departure from Hong Kong for the Straits Division, I am anxious to complete my round of inspection before proceeding to Nanking, as in the event of active operations being required beyond a blockade of the Grand Canal to cut off the salt trade, I shall be enabled to reach Nanking and assume charge as soon as a sufficient force can be collected.

5. I have more fully explained this to Sir Rutherford Alcock in my semi-official letters; at the same time I am of opinion that the provincial authorities at Nanking, seeing that we are in earnest, and that they are unsupported by the Central Government at Peking, will at once concede all demands on a mere display of such an unusual force as already has been despatched to their neighbourhood.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Commander Bush to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

(Extract.)

September 14, 1868.

OWING to my now serious illness, I determine to return to Shanghae, as I could render no further assistance to the Consul; and the objects of the mission being nearly completed, I left Nanking on the afternoon of the 12th, and arrived here (Shanghae) this morning.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Orders addressed to Captain Heneage.

By the Honourable Sir H. Keppel, K.C.B., &c. &c.

YOUR letter of the 27th October informs me that having read the requisition addressed to me by Her Majesty's Minister in China, of which a copy is annexed, you had determined to embark Mr. Consul Medhurst on the 2nd November, and proceed with him to the anchorage off Nanking, in the "Rodney," accompanied by the "Rinaldo" and "Slaney." The course you have adopted meets with my approval.

Her Majesty's Minister appeals to me to give such effective support to Mr. Consul

* Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Medhurst in the demands he will be instructed to make as may be necessary to obtain full redress for recent outrages committed on British subjects at Yang-chow.

I intrust you with this important duty until I am enabled to join you; and in the proceedings you adopt, you will be careful to act with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Consul.

Should the Provisional Authorities persistently refuse a compliance with our demands, Her Majesty's Consul will place the matter in your hands.

The measures of coercion to be adopted will be determined by circumstances. It may be necessary to arrest the high officers, should they absolutely refuse to do justice, or respect our Treaty rights; or in respect to Yang-chow, a simple blockade of the mouth of the Grand Canal, stopping the junk salt trade, may speedily effect our object.

You will make yourself acquainted with the force you are likely to encounter, and should it appear that a larger landing-party is required than can be afforded by Her Majesty's ships under your orders, reinforced by the "Zebra" and "Icarus," you will apply to Captain Stanhope for such proportion of the Marines and small-arm men serving in the division under his orders as can be spared, informing him that it is my direction he immediately dispatches such force to Nanking in Her Majesty's ship "Adventurer;" but no commanding officer senior to yourself is to supersede you in the direction of the service with which you are specially intrusted; and should there be any doubt as to the sufficiency of the force at your command to carry out the coercive measures that may be resolved on, you will wait further communication from me, confining your operations in that case to a simple blockade, which is to be notified to the Representatives of other Powers in the usual manner.

Should you find, on the other hand, that you do not require the assistance I have referred to, and that a peaceable compliance with our demands enables you to dispense with the "Rinaldo," "Icarus," and "Slaney," you will dispatch them, without delay, in execution of the orders I have addressed to their commanding officers.

You are to remain in the North Division, where I hope to rejoin you in the "Salamis" as soon as circumstances will admit.

Dated on board the "Salamis," at Saigon, this 5th day of November, 1868.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

To Algernon C. F. Hencage, Esq.,
Captain, Her Majesty's ship "Rodney."

By the Commander-in-chief,

(Signed) WM. BOND RISK, *Secretary*.

No. 11.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 28.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 9, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of your Lordship, copy of Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch dated the 29th October last, to Her Majesty's Minister, reporting further on the Yang-chow question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, October 29, 1868.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch dated the 15th instant, with its inclosures, whilst absent at Ningpo; and I lost no time in hastening back to my post, in order to hold myself in readiness to carry out the instructions which it conveys, in conjunction with Her Majesty's naval authorities.

I observe, with sincere gratification, that the position which I have taken up with the provincial authorities in reference to the redress claimed for the outrage committed upon the missionaries at Yang-chow, has secured your Excellency's unqualified approval; and I shall be careful to make the modification in my terms, which is suggested in your despatch under acknowledgment.

As regards the steps which I am required to take in furtherance of your Excellency's wishes, I am informed by Captain Heneage, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," that he is in possession of ample authority from Her Majesty's Naval Commander-in-chief to support me with all the force at his disposal, consisting of his own ship, the "Rinaldo," and the "Slaney," and that it is necessary, owing to the heavy draft of the first-named vessel, that he should cross the bar on the 2nd proximo; and as there appears to be every probability that Tsêng Kwo-fan will hand over his charge to his successor within the next week or ten days, I have determined upon starting on my mission without waiting for any further communication from the Admiral, to whom, however, your Excellency's despatches have been forwarded.

I will keep you regularly informed of my proceedings by every opportunity at my disposal.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 12.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 28.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 10, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of your Lordship, copies of Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatches dated the 3rd and 6th instant to Her Majesty's Minister.

I regret that the inclosure in despatch of 3rd November has been inadvertently taken away by Mr. Medhurst without a copy having been left in this office. I have, however, caused one to be written for, and shall forward it by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, November 3, 1868.

ADVERTING to my despatch dated the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Her Majesty's ship "Rodney" left Wusung yesterday accompanied by Her Majesty's ships "Rinaldo" and "Slaney," and that I propose to start this evening to join the fleet at Chin-kiang. Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," which has since arrived in port from Amoy, is, I believe, also ordered to proceed up the river forthwith.

In order to save time and to obviate the necessity of any objectless discussion with the Viceroy when I arrive at his Yamên, I have prepared an official communication (translation of which I have the honour to inclose) which I intend to send on shore as soon as the "Rodney" reaches Nanking, and I shall make it my endeavour to keep the Viceroy as close as I possibly can to the terms laid down in this communication.

Your Excellency will observe that my letter limits the duty of the Commission of Inquiry very much to the prosecution of the perpetrators and abettors of the outrage, and that it claims the right to insist on the concession of the demands which have been already preferred, with certain slight modifications which are provided for, as a preliminary to any proceedings whatever. I took care to adopt this course because I felt that to admit the possibility of discussion by the Commission of my main terms would be to lose my hold of Tsêng, and practically to nullify the objects of the mission altogether. Nor can Tsêng complain, I conceive, of my taking those terms as my starting-point, seeing that from the first no pains have been taken on the part of the Chinese to assist me in substantiating the facts on which my case is based, but that rather, on the contrary, every effort has been made to gloss over and misrepresent them.

I gather from your Excellency's despatches of the 9th and 15th October that your instructions admit of this construction, and I trust that the result may prove that you quite concur in the correctness of the view which I am taking.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, November 6, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatch dated the 3rd instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that I have reached this port, and am now awaiting the arrival of Her Majesty's ships, whose progress has been unfortunately retarded by the prevalence of foggy weather.

I find a most wholesome alarm prevalent amongst all classes as regards the advent and intentions of Her Majesty's ships, and I anticipate little difficulty in pressing my claims on the attention of Viceroy Tsêng, who, I am informed, is not to hand over his seals to his successor until the 10th instant.

The question of Mr. Taylor's possession of the premises rented to him within the walls of this city, the details of which have been fully reported in my despatches dated the 3rd and 24th September last, is, I am happy to say, approaching a satisfactory solution. Chiefly owing to Mr. Allen's persistent efforts, Mr. Taylor's right to the house has been so far admitted as to allow of his placing his printing-press and other furniture on the premises, and employing workmen to prepare them for his reception; and yesterday I had an interview with the Taoutae, when he promised me that, on Mr. Taylor's procuring a written consent to his lease by the only member of the proprietor's family who has recorded an objection with the magistrate, which consent Mr. Taylor has volunteered to obtain, the transfer shall be formally registered, and a proclamation in support of it.

Your, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 13.

Acting Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 28.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 10, 1868.

IT is with pleasure I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have just received intelligence, dated the 9th of November, from Mr. Consul Medhurst, to the effect that the Viceroy Tsêng had yielded unconditionally to the demands made by him in connection with the Yang-chow affair, pronouncing them to be very reasonable.

A Grain Commissioner from Huai-gan, and Ying, the Taoutae of Shanghai, had been appointed Commissioners to proceed to Yang-chow with Mr. Medhurst, in order to secure the trial and punishment of the offenders in the late attack.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 10, 1869.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 29, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 12th instant, I have the honour to inclose a further correspondence on the same subject with Mr. Consul Medhurst, Mr. Gibson, in charge at Taiwan, and the naval Commander-in-chief, Sir Henry Keppel. Mr. Medhurst informs me he has sent his own despatches to my address, herein referred to, direct to the Foreign Office.

The Prince of Kung's reply of the 14th was satisfactory, and in accordance with what was agreed upon in our interview, that he should direct the Viceroy at Nanking to depute a Wei-yuan of proper rank to enter upon a new inquiry, in concert with Mr. Medhurst, with a view to a final settlement by peaceable means.

The rest of the correspondence records the steps I have taken, in communication with the respective Consuls and Naval Commander-in-chief, to resume negotiations, both at Nanking and Taiwan, backed by an adequate force, to be persevered in until full redress should be obtained, and better security for the future.

The Admiral's assurances of his willingness and ability to give all necessary assistance will, I trust, ensure the success of the peaceable efforts I have instructed the Consuls to make, and avert the necessity of asserting our Treaty rights by a resort to force. I have reason to believe that the Viceroy Tsêng Kwo-fan has been warned that he cannot leave for his new post as Governor-General of Chili, to which he has been recently nominated, until he has arrived at a satisfactory settlement of existing differences; to which I attribute the very moderate and conciliatory tone of his last communication to Mr. Medhurst, and the desire shown to make material concessions. The removal of the Prefect and Che-hsien of Yang-chow, with an admission of their inefficiency, if not of their

criminality, and the offer to make reasonable compensation to the missionaries for injuries and losses, are great advances on his curt answer when Mr. Medhurst was left by the "Rinaldo." He is, of course, aware that a naval force is likely to be dispatched to support the Consul more effectively in his farther efforts at a peaceful solution.

In like manner, the removal of the Taoutae from Taiwan cannot fail to have a good influence, and must facilitate Mr. Swinhoe's farther efforts in the same direction.

I venture to hope that by this timely display of determination to assert Treaty rights and obtain redress for their violation, whatever the resistance offered by local authorities in complicity with literati and populace, I shall be enabled, at no distant date, to report the restoration of order, with material guarantees for the protection of British subjects and their interests, both on the Yang-tsze and in Formosa. And if these results can be secured without any resort to measures of open coercion, the victory over bad faith and hostility in provincial authorities will be one of unmixed benefit in our future relations, both with the Government here, and at the more distant localities where the authorities are under very imperfect control.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

The Prince of Kung to Sir R. Alcock.

(Translation.)

October 14, 1868.

THE Prince of Kung, &c., makes a communication in reply.

On the 10th instant the Prince received a reply from his Excellency the British Minister, to the effect that, as the Viceroy had failed to make a satisfactory settlement of the cases in which the missionaries had suffered violence at Yang-chow, it would be necessary for a competent high officer of at least equivalent rank to be associated with Mr. Medhurst in an investigation; that all concerned in the demolition of the house, and those who plundered and assaulted the missionaries, whether principals or accessories, should be severely punished; that, should any of the graduate or official classes be proved to have incited the people, they should be made an example of; and his Excellency requests that orders may be at once sent to Tsêng Kwo-fan to depute a competent high officer to deal with the case.

The Prince is aware that the Viceroy deputed the Magistrate of Shang-yuan, Chang Kai-chi, to proceed to Yang-chow and make a thorough investigation; and that Mr. Medhurst did not proceed to Yang-chow to assist at the inquiry. However, as your Excellency's despatch insists on the appointment of a high officer to proceed to Yang-chow and hold a *bond fide* and searching inquiry with Mr. Medhurst, the Prince is instructing the Minister-Superintendent to depute an able official of the rank of Treasurer, Judge, or Intendant, to thoroughly investigate the case with Mr. Medhurst at Yang-chow. A final settlement can be come to when the Minister's reply is received; meanwhile the Prince replies as above.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, October 15, 1868.

A VERY serious outrage on some English missionaries living at Yang-chow, a town situated on the Grand Canal, was perpetrated in August last by a Chinese mob, of which the particulars will be found in the deposition made before Mr. Consul Medhurst, in that officer's despatches to me, and also in my official letter to the Prince of Kung, copies of which are inclosed for your information.

It will be seen by Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch of the 31st August, dated Chin-kiang, to which place he had proceeded in accordance with my instructions, that certain of the literati and gentry were charged with complicity, and were in fact known to be chief instigators of the attack, and the Prefect and Chih-sien are equally accused of culpable supineness, if not direct collusion with the offenders. These circumstances gave a special character of gravity to the outbreak, sufficiently alarming in its violence and object without such conditions. The leading facts and the reparation demanded are both clearly set forth in Mr. Medhurst's official letter to the Prefect, dated 2nd September, of which a copy is inclosed.

This was speedily followed by a somewhat similar manifestation of violence and hostility at Chin-kiang, with which port Yang-chow is closely connected by trading relations, and evidently in sympathy with the apparent success of the Yang-chow populace

in driving the missionaries out of their city. Mr. Medhurst's despatch of the 3rd September gives the leading facts.

Notwithstanding the threatening aspect of affairs, I had great confidence in Mr. Consul Medhurst's exertions to obtain prompt redress for the past, as well as better security for the future, by peaceable means, backed by the material support of the senior naval officer with Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" in the vicinity. I have learned with the more regret that this officer determined at the most critical period suddenly to withdraw his ship and return to Shanghai.

Commander Bush has no doubt laid before you his reasons for this untoward resolution.

Mr. Consul Medhurst has simply reported to me in his despatch, herewith inclosed, that the sudden illness of the Commander was the motive assigned. Your Excellency will see by the despatches to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to Her Majesty's Consul, of which I inclose copies, that I cannot see in the Commander's disability from sickness any sufficient reason for the return of the ship to Shanghai. It must have been evident that the success of the negotiation commenced with his support would be compromised by such a step. He has certainly incurred a grave responsibility, and I cannot avoid the conclusion that the complete failure which followed is mainly due to his action. It would have been much better for our position and interests in China that no steps whatever had been taken to enforce redress, than that the Consul should begin, and then suddenly be left in the middle of his work without the material support on which he properly counted for success. Demands once made there is no retreat possible without serious loss of prestige and influence, on which everything depends in the East. Security to life and property, commercial interests and Treaty rights, are all compromised by any false steps in this direction. I feel confident that your own experience in these seas will lead you fully to coincide with me in this conclusion.

The mischief having been done, however, it must be repaired as speedily as possible. We have appeared to retreat before popular violence and a manifestation of bad faith on the part of the Chinese authorities, and it is above all things necessary to prove that such was never our intention, and that just claims for reparation once made, they will be persevered in until completely satisfied.

I lost no time, therefore, in declaring to the Tsung-li Yamên that the action of the provincial authorities, from the Prefect and Chihsien at Yang-chow to the Viceroy at Nanking, were to the last degree unsatisfactory; and in demanding a full and searching inquiry by a competent officer, to be deputed under instructions from the Yamên, into all the facts, in order to secure the punishment of all implicated in such outrages. It will be seen by the inclosed copies of my official letters to the Prince of Kung, after my last interview and his reply, that this point has been conceded; and it only now remains for me to request your Excellency to give such effective support to Mr. Consul Medhurst in the demands he will be instructed to make, as may I think avert the necessity for any more active measures of coercion.

Should these hopes unfortunately not be realized, I am satisfied there is no alternative, consistent with a due regard for British interests in China, but to direct the Consul to place the matter in your hands, in order that you may take such further measures as shall be found necessary to compel the local authorities to meet our demands and do full justice, in accordance with the instructions, I am assured by the Tsung-li Yamên, they will receive from the Central Government.

Judging from past experience, it is quite possible these instructions, if received, may be disregarded by the provincial officers; but if so, it must be at their own risk and peril.

In any case, the latest despatch from Mr. Consul Medhurst, of which I inclose copy, will show that the spirit of the populace at Chin-kiang renders it imperative that Treaty rights should be firmly asserted and maintained.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, October 15, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 24th September and 1st October, and, adverting to my despatch of the 9th instant, referring to the Yang-chow outrage, I now inclose, under flying seal, to be forwarded by the first opportunity after perusal, a

despatch addressed to his Excellency the naval Commander-in-chief Sir H. Keppel. You will see that I have entirely approved all the steps taken, as reported by you in these despatches, so far as you were supported by Commander Bush, and up to that point, looking to the serious consequences likely to follow the sudden withdrawal of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," I trust you did not fail to let the Commander know the responsibility he was incurring.

I have now written to Sir H. Keppel to give you such effective support as may enable you to enter into fresh negotiations with the Viceroy at Nanking and the local authorities at Yang-chow. You will wait for some communication from the Admiral on the subject before taking any farther steps, and only proceed to Nanking when assured of the material means of success by the presence of one or more of Her Majesty's ships on the spot.

The demands which you made in the first instance, in your letter to the Prefect of the 2nd of September, appear to me perfectly just and reasonable; and I have to instruct you to insist upon the measure of redress they contemplate.

I have only to remark, in reference to the first of these letters, that, unless any permanent injury has been suffered by any of the missionary party, I do not conceive they can properly claim compensation for anything beyond actual losses and expenses incurred; but the proprietor of the premises, or any persons connected therewith who have suffered in person or property by the violence of the mob or the unjustifiable action of the authorities, should also be indemnified at the expense of those who were responsible; and therefore I authorize you to claim, in addition to the sum required to compensate the missionaries, such further amount as may appear necessary to that end for the other sufferers.

You will acknowledge the receipt of this despatch, and give me the earliest information of any communication you may receive from the naval Commander-in-chief on the subject.

I inclose a copy of the original text of the Prince of Kung's reply, should you find occasion to refer to the exact terms employed in your communications with the local authorities.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 14.

Acting Consul Gibson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Taiwan, Takao Office, September 22, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency the following events which occurred yesterday, viz., that three ambuscades were planted in the road along which the Senior Naval Officer, I, and our party, would have proceeded to Pi-tau.

About 5 P.M. yesterday an old man* of about 63 came to the office, and informed me that if I wished to go to Pi-tau, for the future I must not follow the road from Ling-a-liao to Pi-tau, as there were armed parties concealed among the hedges and trees to bar our path. I thought the report was a falsehood, and therefore gave it no further attention. Mr. Pickering visited me afterwards, and he had heard the report.

About 9 P.M., I received a letter from Dr. Maxwell. This gave me a succinct detail of the ambuscades. I inclose Dr. Maxwell's letter. Of the report in Dr. Maxwell's letter there cannot be a doubt; the brother of the mandarin at Taku, who came out of Pi-tau yesterday, was his confidential informant. Two chair-coolies who had been employed to carry me up to Pi-tau, and who ran away in the morning of the 21st, also gave me a report almost identical with the above.

In order to make matters doubly sure, I sent my Ting-chai across the bay to find out the particulars; he brings me the report that the men were concealed in three positions, armed with gin-galls, swords, spears, and knives, about sixty or seventy in each position.

From the evidence of these witnesses, I believe the report is a fact. The Senior Naval Officer and I have determined to defend Takao if attacked, he waiting instructions from his superior officers, and I from your Excellency.

The reason that I had for visiting the District Magistrate requires a word of explanation.

It is now nearly four weeks since the Taoutae made definite promises to Lord

* This man I afterwards found out was a person who let his sedan-chairs to coolies.—J. G.

Charles Scott and to myself that he would issue orders to his subordinates to arrest the criminals whom I had charged with murder, stabbing, &c., in my despatch to the Prefect of the 11th instant.

As nearly two-thirds of the criminals are within the jurisdiction of the Magistrate of Fung-shan, my intention was to visit him in order to ask him whether he had received any such orders.

But on the arrival of the letter I sent him to specify a day, he was up at Taiwan. So soon as he returned, he sent me a semi-official letter, an abstract of which I have submitted to your Excellency in my despatch of the 19th instant.

The subsequent steps my despatch of the 21st instant will make known to your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

P.S.—I sent my second Ling-chai all the way to Pi-tau to-day in the afternoon. He has returned and informs me that the men are actually watching now, and he persuades me to enter Pi-tau. I will not, unless I have got a force.

J G.

Inclosure 5 in No. 14.

Dr. Maxwell to Acting Consul Gibson.

Dear Sir,

Takao, September 21, 1868.

IT was your intention to have gone in this morning to Pi-tau to visit the district magistrate in connection with the charge of poisoning certain persons whose remains are unknown, and of concealing the bones, a charge which, within the last two days, has been brought against my Chinese assistant and myself, by the District Magistrate of Pi-tau. You were prevented from carrying out your intention by the absolute refusal of the District Magistrate to see you. I beg to inform you that it is now a matter of notoriety that this morning, at the time of your expected visit, the city of Pi-tau had in its streets a very unusual number of persons who were armed with muskets, and who made no secret of their intention of resisting the entrance of yourself and party into the city. I have also to inform you that outside the city, from the west gate towards Takao, for a distance of about three miles (about half-way to Pi-tau) there were armed parties of Chinese, from ten to twenty in number, concealed at parts of the road where there were mounds or hedges near by the road which favoured concealment. These parties, as estimated by various people who passed along the road, might amount to upwards of 200 in all. It is well known that all the arrangements of these parties were ordered by the underlings of the Yamên. It is distinctly asserted, and although unwilling to believe that a District Magistrate could be as vile, I see no escape from believing it, that the orders issued from the head of the Yamên were to the effect that these armed bands might, outside the city, kill as many of the approaching party as they could, but that inside the city, if they reached it, there was to be no fighting. The reason for this could only be that under his immediate jurisdiction, *i.e.*, within the city, he desired to be freed from the responsibility of having to answer for any lives that might be lost. The despatch which you permitted me to see this morning, and which agrees in its statements so substantially with the actual arrangements, leaves us no room to doubt that the mandarin has been privy to all that has been going on, and has been determined at all hazards to keep you out of the city. I think it is right to mention that in various places placards were posted up, offering rewards for the apprehension of any Christian, and very large rewards for the killing of any foreigner. These placards gave no name or seal, and were probably only issued to create excitement.

I may take this opportunity of informing you of the origin of the remarkable charge which is now brought against me.

On the day before yesterday, while the Magistrate was engaged on public business in his office, four men carrying an idol chair, and attended by a large crowd, appeared at the gate of the Yamên, shouting and crying that the idol demanded that the Magistrate should go to the chapel, for that there was something wrong there. These men persisted in crying and shouting, and at length the Magistrate sent some of his servants to follow the idol to the chapel. Arrived at the chapel these men entered it, the idol bearers rocking and moving about from side to side after their usual fashion. For a while they could come to no conclusion, but at length one handle of the idol chair was pointed to a certain spot, and continuing to be pointed there, the people around began to dig, and

sure enough they soon came to a large collection of bones, as mentioned in the Magistrate's despatch.

Immediately a cry was raised as to my having poisoned people, &c., and a crowd went to insist upon the Magistrate himself coming to see.

When I tell you that the four idol bearers were connected with the Yamên, of whom one, if not more, is accused of complicity in the outrage of April last, you will see at once where the wretched plot had its origin.

I beg, &c.
(Signed) J. L. MAXWELL.

Inclosure 6 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir,

Peking, October 29, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of September and its inclosure, and seeing the grave and increasing complications with which you have to contend, I have directed Mr. Consul Swinhoe to lose no time in returning to his post. The Naval Commander-in-chief will also take steps to detach an adequate force to second the Consul in the efforts he will be instructed to make to restore security and order, and obtain full justice for past aggressions and outrages, as well as compensation for property seized or destroyed.

I have to approve of the steps hitherto taken, as reported by you in your several despatches, and, until Mr. Swinhoe takes charge, you will continue to maintain, to the best of your ability, and with such means as are at your disposal, the Treaty rights so flagrantly violated, but avoiding any offensive measures, which, if found necessary, will be better undertaken when the force the Admiral proposes sending arrives with the Consul. It is also desirable to give time for the Viceroy at Foo-chow to send an officer to Formosa to supersede the Taoutae, and, in concert with the Consul inquire into the whole of the circumstances connected with such continuous outrages. This his Excellency will be directed to do by instructions from the Tsung-li Yamên, which may not reach Foo-chow quite as early as this will probably be in your hands.

Should you be engaged in any further negotiations in the interval before Mr. Swinhoe's arrival, you will continue to insist on the reimbursement of the value of Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s camphor, together with compensation for losses inflicted upon the missionaries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 7 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Swinhoe.

Sir,

Peking, October 29, 1868.

THE serious aspect of affairs, and the increasing complications resulting from the perverse and treacherous conduct of the local authorities in complicity with the populace, render it necessary that you should proceed, without further delay, to your post, and resume charge.

I have already written to his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-chief, requesting he will detach a sufficient force to second you in carrying out my instructions, with a view to the maintenance of important Treaty rights. The restoration of order, as well as compensation for the past and security for the future, are all essential.

The Admiral having stated his readiness to do so, I have now to instruct you to enter into communication with the Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai; and, in the event of the "Rinaldo," or any other ship, being ordered to Takao, you will request a passage may be given you to that port. Failing this, you will proceed by the quickest means. You will also confer with him, and, aided by your local knowledge, give him all the information in your power as to the probable nature of the steps that will have to be taken to bring the authorities and people to reason, and induce the former to do full justice.

To further this object, I have addressed the inclosed communication to his Imperial Highness the Prince of Kung, requesting he will send instructions forthwith to the Viceroy of Fukien to depute a Wei-yüan, of competent rank, to proceed to Formosa,

with full powers to inquire, in concert with you, into all the facts, including the conduct of the local authorities, and to do justice in the premises.

As to the steps to be taken, and the ends to be secured, I must leave much to your judgment on the spot. But the inclosed Memorial of the missionaries, and copy of a further letter of Dr. Maxwell, with Mr. Gibson's last despatch from Takow, will place you in possession of many of the facts, as well as of the general condition of affairs.

Murders have been committed on Chinese catechists, mission-houses and chapels have been destroyed, a British subject has been stabbed, British property in camphor to a large amount has been seized, and, according to Mr. Gibson's last account, they have even proceeded so far as to plant ambuscades on the road to Ting-shan, with the object of attacking and killing Mr. Gibson and his party if they attempted to carry out their intention of proceeding to that place. These are grave acts of spoliation and outrage, rendering life wholly insecure and trade impossible. As these acts are done in open violation of the most important Treaty stipulations, it is a necessity that decided steps should be taken to hold the authorities responsible, and compel them to afford effective protection to both life and property. Their own disgrace, the punishment of the offenders, and compensation for losses inflicted, are the three most important means of securing respect for Treaties in future; and you will, therefore, keep these steadily in view. As far as the Taoutae is concerned, his removal has been already promised by the Prince; but there must be others, more or less culpable, who should also suffer for their conduct.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 8 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, October 29, 1868.

REFERRING to my previous despatch and to yours of the 13th of October, which has subsequently reached me, inclosing a further correspondence with his Excellency the Viceroy of Nanking, touching the outrage of Yang-chow, I agree with you that the tone, as well as the concessions made, are evidences of a desire to meet our reasonable demands, and more satisfactory than the last accounts received from you.

The Viceroy's last letter, however, is very far from meeting all the exigencies of the case. The stone tablet on which he dwells so much is a matter of secondary importance, and probably need not be insisted upon, although his reasons for refusing are not very pertinent or conclusive.

But as regards the refusal to ascertain whether any proclamation he may prepare for circulation is of a tenor to satisfy your judgment of what is required for the future security of British subjects, it is quite clear you can accept none other, and therefore it will be less compromising to the dignity of the Viceroy to consult before issuing, than to be compelled to amend or alter after publication at the requisition of a foreign Power. Nor is there, in truth, any reason why his Excellency should make this difficulty from any concern for the dignity of his office. The Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên constantly take this course, when the object is to arrive at a common understanding with the foreign Representatives in any matter affecting foreign interests.

The removal of the authorities, and admission of their inefficiency, if not of their culpability, together with the readiness expressed to make the compensation you may find just for injuries to person or property, are all favourable indications which lead to the hope that, if you are enabled shortly to proceed to Nanking, adequately supported by the Senior Naval Officer, a satisfactory settlement may be arrived at without the necessity of resorting to force. As to the time of your proceeding thither, you will guide your movements by the tenor of the Admiral's communication in answer to a despatch inclosed to you under flying seal for transmission on the 15th of this month.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 9 in No. 14.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Nagasaki, October 3, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Excellency's information, the copy of a letter from Commander Lord Charles Scott, of Her Majesty's sloop "Icarus," representing restrictions placed on the camphor trade by the Taoutae of Taiwan, in opposition to Treaty, and reporting the robbery and outrage of which Mr. Pickering was the victim, with the particulars of which you are doubtless familiar.

Should your Excellency's representation fail to secure the compensation that appears due to Mr. Pickering, I shall be happy to dispatch an ample force to Formosa, to act on such requisition as you may be pleased to make, with a view to exacting the redress for past outrages and respect for treaty rights now denied to more peaceable efforts.

I hope to meet Lord Charles Scott at Amoy about the 15th instant, when I shall personally ascertain the present state of affairs in Taiwan, after which I proceed to Hong Kong, remaining there about a month.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 10 in No. 14.

Commander Lord C. Scott to the Senior Naval Officer, Hong Kong.

Sir,

"Icarus," Amoy, September 11, 1868.

THE camphor trade in the island of Formosa has for years been a monopoly of the Taoutae of Taiwan.

The Taoutae of Taiwan holds his rank direct from Peking, and, although the Viceroy of Foochoo has to inspect the island every three years, still the Taoutae is virtually independent of him, and has the right of corresponding direct with Peking.

The Taoutae of Taiwan gets 30,000 dollars annually from the camphor trade, and is therefore unwilling to act up to the Treaty, which allows Englishmen to trade in camphor.

Camphor is in the list of Tariffs, both export and import, and consequently, according to Treaty, not a forbidden article of trade.

Last April, when a merchant sent up to a place called Gawchay (in latitude 24° 16' N., on the west coast of Formosa) to buy camphor to take to Taiwan, the Taoutae would not stamp the agent's (Mr. Pickering) passport, and ordered his soldiers to seize the camphor (250 piculs) and take Mr. Pickering.

Mr. Pickering escaped (having been fired on by upwards of 100 soldiers) unhurt, and managed to get to Tamsuy, on the north of Formosa.

Mr. Pickering informed me that the Taoutae had offered 500 taels for his head. My visit to the Taoutae has resulted in a promise in writing to the British Consul at Taiwan that Englishmen shall not be interfered with in the camphor trade, but I have failed in getting the 250 piculs of camphor restored, or 6,000 dollars paid instead. All that the Taoutae will promise to do is to refer the matter to the Viceroy at Foochow, and proposes that our Consul should refer it to the Ambassador at Peking. If the Viceroy at Foochow gives a decision adverse to the Taoutae, I do not think the Taoutae will respect the decision, but will appeal to Peking. All the Taoutae wants to do is to delay, as I am told his successor has been already named, and the Taoutae once gone from Formosa, there will be nobody from whom to demand the restitution of the stolen camphor.

The case in point of the camphor seems to me to be a simple case of robbery and attempt to murder; but, unless I proceed to force, I see no chance of recovering either camphor or dollars. I hope that my attempt to carry out the Treaty with regard to the camphor trade will meet with your approval; as, if the Taoutae carries out his promise, the camphor trade for the future will be unmolested. In all that I have done, Mr. Gibson, Her Majesty's Acting Consul (Taiwan), has entirely agreed with me, and I am much indebted to him for his good advice and able assistance.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES T. SCOTT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 14.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Nagasaki, October 3, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to place in your Excellency's hands the copy of a letter from Commander Lord Charles Scott, of the "Icarus," representing the rude and insulting behaviour of the Taoutae of Taiwan during a recent interview, as well as various breaches of our Treaty rights committed by that official.

I request that you will be pleased to bring this case to the notice of the Prince of Kung with such demands for redress and apology as in your opinion the case may require.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 12 in No. 14.

Commander Lord C. Scott to the Senior Naval Officer, Hong Kong.

Sir,

"Icarus," at Amoy, September 11, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to request that the conduct of the Taoutae of Taiwan to me on the 27th of August and subsequently, be reported to the high authorities at Peking, as being a gross breach of the Article LII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

On the 27th of August, at Taiwan-foo, I ordered cargo-boats to come off to the ship to take Mr. Gibson (Consul), myself, and a guard of twenty men on shore to visit the Taoutae. The Taoutae gave an order that no boats were to go off to the ship. (See Article XVI of Treaty.)

On the 28th, in reply to a letter I wrote on the 27th, the Taoutae sent, at 6 P.M., to say he would receive me at 4 P.M. the same day, knowing it to be impossible.

On the 29th, when I landed in my own boats and went up to Taiwan-foo, and was received by the Taoutae in accordance with a demand from me, the Taoutae kept me waiting in a hot court-yard for ten minutes and never received me with the salute to which I am entitled.

In the middle, or rather commencement, of the interview which then took place, he got up and left the room in a passion without a word of explanation to me, leaving me with the Chintai, whose behaviour contrasted most favourably with the Taoutae's.

The Taoutae's whole behaviour to me was insulting and discourteous, so much so that I refused to either see or write to him again; but I carried on all my correspondence afterwards through the Chintai (General), who has been my friend in all this business.

I have the honour to suggest that, if you think proper to forward my complaint to Peking, a demand be made either for the removal or degradation of the Taoutae of Taiwan.

I must also state that on my arrival off Taiwan-foo, the Taoutae closed the gates of the city, and gave an order that no foreigners were to be admitted, being a gross breach of the Treaty, as Taiwan-foo is a Treaty port.

I inclose my reasons for requiring cargo-boats on the 28th August, and landing with a guard of twenty men on the 29th.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES, T. SCOTT.

Inclosure 13 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, October 29, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of two letters of the 3rd instant, the one inclosing copy of a letter from Commander Lord Charles Scott, of the "Icarus," reporting the rude and insulting behaviour of the Taoutae of Taiwan during an interview, as well as various breaches of our Treaty rights, and the other referring to a seizure of camphor. I have not failed to bring the conduct of the Taoutae on this and other occasions before the Tsung-li Yamèn, and have received the assurance of the Ministers that it had been determined to remove him from his post.

In regard to various breaches of Treaty, of which he and other officials in Formosa have been guilty, I have already, in my despatch of the 15th instant, informed you that there is little hope of redress without the presence of an adequate force to support the Consul in his demands. And I have now, in view of the serious complications and continued outrages, instructed Mr. Swinhoe, the Consul of Taiwan, in the despatch of which I inclose a copy for your information, to return without delay to his post, and there prosecute the necessary inquiries, taking such farther steps as he may find needful, in concert with the Senior Naval Officer, to enforce a full measure of justice and redress for the injuries inflicted, both as regards person and property.

I trust it may have been in your Excellency's power to detach such a force to the coast of Formosa with that object as will ensure success; and that the Senior Officer will have instructions to give the most effective support to Her Majesty's Consul, and not to desist until that officer is satisfied some security has been obtained for the future against a repetition of such lawless proceedings on the part of the authorities and populace.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 14 in No. 14.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

October 29, 1868.

I HAVE again to draw your Imperial Highness' attention to the state of affairs in Formosa.

I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Taiwan, to the effect that when, on the 20th September, he wrote to the Magistrate at Feng-shen, appointing the following day for an interview; that functionary refused to see him. It was reported to the Consul—indeed the rumour was in everybody's mouth—that ambuscades of armed men had been formed at available points along the route by which the Consul must have travelled, had he determined to visit the city. The Consul took steps to ascertain the truth or falsity of the rumour, and I regret to say there can be no doubt of its authenticity.

Mr. Swinhoe, the Consul proper for Taiwan, is at present on duty elsewhere; I have ordered him to return to his post without delay.

The lives and Treaty rights of British subjects in Formosa must be protected, and with this view the naval Commander-in-chief is about to send a naval force to support the Consul as occasion requires.

I have urgently to request your Imperial Highness to instruct the Viceroy at once to depute an officer of competent rank to proceed to Formosa and investigate matters on the spot with Mr. Swinhoe, that these unpleasant complications may be brought to an end.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 15 in No. 14.

The Prince of Kung to Sir R. Alcock.

(Translation.)

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

With reference to the maltreatment of missionaries by certain braves in Formosa, the Yamên, on receipt of his Excellency the British Minister's first despatch in September, sent orders by special express* to the Viceroy of Fuhkien and Chih-kiang to forthwith dispatch a competent high officer to proceed at once and arrange matters.

Three days after the sending of this a despatch from the Viceroy and Governor arrived, which stated that they had already, in the 7th month, ordered Tseng, the Intendant of Hsing-hua-foo, Chuen-chow-foo, and Jung-clun-chow, to proceed to Taiwan, taking his seal with him, and to settle matters with all speed.

The Yamên yesterday received a further despatch from his Excellency the British Minister on the subject. A copy of this was at once sent by special express, with

* 500 li a day.

instructions to the Viceroy and Governor to hasten the equitable settlement of this matter by the said Tseng, in conjunction with Wu, the former Taoutai of Taiwan.

In Mr. Taylor's matters, the Prefect of Yang-chow and the Magistrate concerned, have been deprived of their offices. The Yamèn have also sent, by special express, letters to the Viceroy and Governor, enjoining them to arrest and punish, as the law requires, the brawler Ko, and those who robbed and set fire to the house.

The Prince has to submit the above reply for the consideration of his Excellency the British Minister.

A necessary communication addressed to Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B.
November 2, 1868.

No. 15.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 10, 1869.)

My Lord, Shanghai, November 17, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant to your Lordship's address, I have the honour to forward the missing inclosure in Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch of the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan.

Sir, "Rodney," November 8, 1868.

On the 31st ultimo I had the honour to inform your Excellency that I was on the point of proceeding for the second time to Nanking, charged with special instructions from Her Majesty's Minister in reference to the treatment of the Yang-chow difficulty.

I have now to acquaint you that I have arrived off your city in company with Captain Heneage, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," and other vessels of war, and that we propose to wait upon your Excellency with a suitable escort of officers at 11 o'clock on the 9th instant.

In order to save both your Excellency and myself any useless discussion, I beg to lay before you in writing the propositions which I contemplate presenting for your acceptance.

In the first place I propose to request you to appoint an officer of suitable rank, as promised by his Highness Prince Kung to Her Majesty's Minister, to proceed in my company to Yang-chow, and there to hold in concert with myself a formal Court of Inquiry into the charges which I have made against the official authorities and gentry of Yang-chow, of having aided and abetted in the outrage committed upon the missionaries in August last. I shall expect that the officer so appointed will have authority to summon before him, and, if necessary, to detain for further trial and punishment, any person, whether in or out of office, and whether a member of the literary class or commoner, whom circumstances may render it expedient to examine publicly before the Court.

In the second place, I desire to procure from your Excellency an admission of the justice of the demands which I have advanced in my several letters to the authorities of Yang-chow and yourself, as well as a distinct pledge under the Viceroy's seal that instructions shall be given to the proper authorities to see them all carried into effect forthwith. As regards the amount of compensation which I have to require for the personal injuries sustained, I am instructed by Her Majesty's Minister that save where any permanent hurt can be shown to have been sustained by any of the missionary party, I am not to claim for anything beyond actual losses and expenses incurred; but I am authorized to see that proper indemnification is granted to the native proprietors of the mission premises, or any other natives connected with the mission who may have suffered in person or property by the violence of the mob, or the unjustifiable action of the authorities. This is a point I have yet to decide after further investigation, the result of which shall be duly communicated to you. I need scarcely add that it is essential that the above concession on your Excellency's part should be made before I can consent to proceed with the proposed inquiry at Yang-chow.

I propose further to claim your attention to questions pending in connection with Chin-kiang, and the Huai-kuan barrier. At the former place the missionary Taylor continues to experience obstructions in the way of a peaceful occupation of the premises which have been let to him by Hsia Lu-chih in the city. And I have to lodge a most serious complaint against the Superintendent of Inland Customs at the last named locality, for having more than once vexatiously and illegally detained property belonging to a British subject, whilst being conveyed under transit-pass and certificate, and for having tortured and punished the native servants in charge.

The above constitute the principal questions which I propose submitting to your Excellency's notice, and I have to request that you will be prepared with positive replies in reference to each one, so that any further misapprehension or delay may be obviated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 16.

Acting Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 10, 1869.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 17, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information copy of Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch of the 13th instant, with inclosures, to the address of his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

"Rodney," November 13, 1868.

IN continuation of my despatches of the 6th and 7th instant, I have now the honour to report proceedings in connection with my mission to Nanking up to the present date.

The squadron reached Chin-kiang on the evening of the 6th. On the following day I was visited by the Taoutae of Shanghai, who stated that he had been instructed by the Viceroy to hasten after me in order to induce me, if possible, to forego my intention of visiting Nanking with so many ships-of-war. I replied that this was out of the question, and I put into his hands for presentation to the Viceroy my ultimatum (copy of which forms an inclosure in my despatch dated the 3rd instant), advising him to proceed in advance to Nanking, and persuade the Viceroy to prepare himself for an unconditional compliance with my demands. This the Taoutae readily promised to do. On the following morning I embarked on board this vessel, accompanied by Messrs. Stronach and Allen, and the same evening the squadron was anchored off Nanking.

Before leaving Shanghai I had made it a matter of anxious reflection, whether, presuming I succeeded in obtaining the Viceroy's unqualified assent to all I had to urge upon him, a result of which under the circumstances there could be little doubt, I should be justified in requiring him to place in my hands some guarantee for the fulfilment of his pledges; and having in view the well-known evasive and shifty character of Chinese officials from the lowest to the highest, as well as the fact that my requisitions were of such a nature that both time and labour must necessarily be expended in seeing them carried into effect, I came to the conclusion that I could not safely accept any pledges made at Nanking as conclusive or sufficient, and that I should fail in my duty were I not to render success certain by obtaining possession of some material guarantee for their strict fulfilment. Captain Heneage, whom I took care to consult, fully concurred with me in this view, and he was of opinion that the responsibility lay with me to see that so important a demonstration as that being now made did not in any way fail of the objects for which it had been ordered. Fortunately a most simple, and at the same time effective, method of putting the scheme into operation happened to offer itself in the presence in his part of the river of a handsome new steamer called the "Tien-chi," which the ticeroy has lately had built for himself at Shanghai, and we determined upon laying an

embargo upon this vessel as soon as we could fall in with her, and taking the first opportunity of requesting the Viceroy to place her at our disposal pending the completion of the negotiations.

We found the "Tien-chi" at anchor off Nanking, and an officer was forthwith dispatched on board to request her commander not to weigh without orders, on pain of having a prize crew placed in charge. It was then about 6 P.M. The effect was electrical. The commander instantly hurried off to report what had happened, and at 11 P.M. he returned bringing with him an official despatch from the Viceroy, in which that officer pledged himself briefly but plainly to accede to all my terms, which he characterized as entirely reasonable. A translation of this letter is appended.

The receipt of the above communication simplified my position materially. It only remained to consult Tsêng in respect to details, and to explain the necessity of my being furnished with the material guarantee which I had made up my mind to exact, as well as to come to some understanding with him as regards the compensation to be given for the losses consequent upon the illegal acts of the Superintendent at the Huai-kuan barrier.

Captain Heneage and myself accordingly waited on Tsêng on Monday the 9th, attended by a suitable escort, and we found him supported by Ting, the well-known Futai of Soo-chow, who had evidently been ordered up to assist his superior in the emergency, for he acted throughout as chief speaker. My first effort was directed towards the arrangement of some compromise of the demand for a stone tablet, as suggested in your Excellency's despatch of the 29th October, which, with another of the same date, reached me whilst on the point of leaving the ship. I found no difficulty in inducing both Tsêng and Ting to promise that a Proclamation should be issued under their seals throughout the three Departments of Yang-chow, Huai-an, and Chin-kiang, setting forth the circumstances under which the Yang-chow outrage had been committed, and the mode in which redress had been given; provided that the record on the tablet to be erected in the mission premises should be limited to the simple caution that the house was leased to a British subject and must not be interfered with.

My next task was to introduce the subject of the material guarantee. Here Ting opposed me with much vehemence. He used all the arguments he could possibly invent to turn me from my purpose, and at last went to the length of absolutely refusing my request. We had eventually to take leave, hinting that unless an order for the temporary transfer of the "Tien-chi" were received on board the "Rodney" by 5 P.M. that same evening, a boat's crew would be placed in formal charge. I need scarcely add that we found the required order on board on our return to the ship.

In the matter of the Huai-kuan Barrier, the Viceroy fully admitted the culpability of the Superintendent, but pleaded that it would be next to impossible to pursue him, as he had recently given up the seals and returned to the capital, and that in any event the jurisdiction was of so peculiar a character, as to render investigation by a provincial governor out of the question. The Viceroy, however, assured me that the underlings who had prominently figured in the transaction should, one and all, be severely punished, and that he would make inquiries as to the best method of receiving any reasonable compensation for the sufferers. This point I left for the while, intending to give it more mature consideration.

After the conclusion of the interview with Tsêng, we proceed to wait upon Ma, the new Viceroy, who received us with marked courtesy. His manly bearing and quick intelligence contrasted very favourably with the sluggish and stolid indifference, whether natural or affected, which forms so notable a characteristic of the functionary whom we had just left. I availed myself of the opportunity to revive the question of the coal mines, but was met by the same reply as regards the dependency of the subject on the action of the Tsung li Yamên.

On my return to Her Majesty's ship, I deemed it expedient to officialize the arrangements which I had succeeded in effecting as regards the proclamation, and the transfer of the Tien-chi, and to communicate my conclusions in respect to the Huai-kuan Barrier compensation; and I accordingly sent Tsêng the inclosed drafts of the proclamation and tablet notice, and addressed him a communication, copy of which I have likewise the honour to inclose. In reply, I received a conjoint letter from Ma and Tsêng (translation inclosed), which is sufficiently satisfactory as regards the Huai-kuan Barrier matter. But as regards the proclamation, I was much annoyed to find from Ying, Taoutae of Shanghai, who came on board to see me, that Tsêng and Ting had already issued their proclamation without reference to me, and that they professed to have understood me to mean that the tablet scheme had been altogether abandoned. Ying produced several copies of the proclamation, one of which I submit, with the

translation annexed. It will be observed that the document is useful enough in itself, but that it in no way answers the purpose for which I had intended it. I pointed out this defect to Ying, and expressed in very plain terms my vexation at the evasion which had been practised upon me. Ying replied that it was impossible under the circumstances to recall the proclamation, but that as he felt convinced the Viceroy would demur to the issue of a second, the simplest plan was to fall back upon the original scheme of a stone tablet, and to require the Chih-fu of Yang-chow to record upon it a proclamation under his seal word for word in accordance with the draft I had sketched for the Viceroy. To this compromise I have for the time being consented, on the understanding that the proclamation already issued has been widely circulated, a point which I have yet to satisfy myself of. The incident, however, only confirms me in the opinion that I took a very wise precaution in securing the guarantee which I have in hand.

The negotiations at Nanking were concluded yesterday by a formal return visit from Ma, who was received on board Her Majesty's ship with all the honour due to his rank. Tsêng excused himself from attending, but deputed two Taoutaes to convey his apologies.

The squadron weighed again this morning, and we are now at anchor off the mouth of the Grand Canal, arrangements having been made to proceed up to Yang-chow to-morrow morning. Captain Heneage proposes to take with him 300 men of all arms, and the gun-boats "Slaney" and "Dove" are told off to convey the force up the canal. The commander of the "Dove," who was left here to survey the channel during our absence at Nanking, pronounces it to be navigable for gun-boats for fifty miles from its mouth.

My next despatch will, I hope, report the result of the inquiry. Meanwhile, I trust that my proceedings may continue to merit your full approval.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

The Viceroy, Tsêng Kwo-fan, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

November 8, 1868.

I HAVE received and possessed myself of the contents of your despatch of this day's date.

With respect to your request for the appointment of two high officers as a Commission to investigate the Yang-chow affair, I have to inform you, that I have directed Salt Commissioner Li and Taoutae Ying to accompany you to that city. They have strict orders to punish, according to the laws of China, those found to have been ringleaders in the disturbance. In case substantial proofs or trustworthy witnesses be produced, incriminating any of the belted gentry, I shall apply for instructions to the Throne, as to the course to pursue. The gentry, however, shall not be summoned on mere empty statement.

I am fully aware that the demands you formerly preferred were reasonable. I am now directing the local authorities to use their utmost exertion to protect, and to prevent natives in the interior, from molesting missionaries; I will guide myself by the principle you have stated in reference to compensation for injuries, &c.

I am informed by Taoutae Tsai that the solution of the difficulty at Chin-kiang only awaits the signature of the woman Hsia (*née* Li) to a document withdrawing her objections, on which being obtained, a proclamation will be issued.

Immediately on the arrival from Huai-kuan of the three employées of foreigners, I issued peremptory summons for the appearance of those who had laid the complaints against them, viz., Chin Ying and Wang Ping Kuo, and they shall be so dealt with as to bring the case to a close. The interests of foreign merchants shall not be allowed to suffer.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Draft Proclamation in accordance with the Arrangements personally entered into by Consul with Tséng and Ting on the 9th November, 1868.

PROCLAMATION under seal of Chih-tai and Fu-tai:—

“Whereas ill-disposed persons, on the 22nd day of August, 1868, incited the people of Yang-chow to enter the house rented by the British subjects Taylor and others, and violently assault and plunder the inmates, so as to lead to their eventual ejection from the premises, some of them in a seriously wounded condition.

“And whereas the local authorities were clearly guilty of having neglected to avert the evil in the first instance.

“It therefore becomes the duty of the high authorities, after clear examination into the circumstances, to order the degradation of the city officials, the condign punishment of the ringleaders, the grant of due compensation to the sufferers, the repairs of the house, and the restoration of the former inmates.

“All this having been done as a matter of simple justice, it now becomes the further duty of the high provincial authorities to issue a public proclamation, and this proclamation is therefore issued for the purpose of making it clearly understood to all men high and low that British subjects possess the liberty to enter the inner land for the prosecution of their lawful purposes under a Treaty granted by His Most Gracious Majesty the Emperor, and that any one who presumes to insult or annoy such persons in any way shall meet with condign punishment. Local authorities everywhere moreover are to see that they extend due protection to British subjects who may have occasion to appeal to them for assistance or redress. Let all tremblingly obey.”

The above to be exhibited in the cities of Yang-chow, Chin-kiang, and Huai-an, and their several Hsiens.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Draft for Stone Tablet Notice, by the Chih-fu of Yang-chow.

WHEREAS this house has been duly leased by to the
British subject Taylor with the permission of the local consular authorities.

And whereas Her British Majesty's Consul at Shanghae has requested that a caution against any such interference may be inscribed upon stone, so as to insure peaceful relations:

Therefore this stone tablet is erected, and all persons are hereby warned that any irregular entrance upon and interference with these premises will meet with condign punishment.

Let all tremblingly obey.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan.

Sir,

“Rodney,” off Nanking, November 10, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's reply to my letter setting forth the special objects of my present visit to Nanking, and I am much gratified by the frank and ready consent which is given to my several requisitions.

I have also to record my high appreciation of your courtesy and consideration in making, after our interview yesterday, through Ying Taotae the further concession of placing in my hands a material guarantee for the strict fulfilment of all your promises.

By the arrangements thus entered into I doubt not but that adjustment of the Yang-chow affair will be speedily and easily arrived at.

There remains yet, however, the Huai-kuan Barrier difficulty. Although you have favoured me with the assurance that the petty official underlings who committed the irregularities shall be duly punished, I have still to require due compensation to be made

to the merchants and their servants who have suffered in consequence of these acts. I am informed by Her Majesty's Minister, who has had before him the letter from his Excellency Ting Futai, dated the 9th September last, and my reply to that functionary, dated the 15th October, that I am right in asserting the principle that a Chinese functionary, who, in contravention of well understood Treaty rights, occasions loss or damage to a British subject by his acts, is liable to make good such loss, and I am directed to insist upon such compensation being accorded in the cases under attention.

I have, therefore, to request you will either empower the two officials named in your letter under acknowledgment to deal with the Huai-kuan question, as well as that connected with Yang-chow, or to appoint some other and equally suitable functionaries to entertain the matter in consultation with myself. I observed that your Excellency let fall a casual remark yesterday, to the effect that the jurisdiction over the Huai-kuan officials was of a peculiar character, and that the offending superintendent had already given over charge and left for Peking. The transfer of the seals to another man can of course make no difference in the liability of the particular department, or of the Government under whom it works. And the peculiarity of the jurisdiction need present no difficulty in the way of an amicable and just arrangement.

I have to request, moreover, that no time may be lost, as I propose to present myself at Huai-kuan as soon as the settlement of the Yang-chow affair will admit of.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

MA, Governor-General, &c.; Tseng, late Governor-General, &c., &c.; Ting, Governor of Kiang-su, hereby issue a proclamation for general information.

Whereas the preaching of religion is sanctioned by Treaty, and all persons are at liberty to become proselytes thereto, according as it suits their convenience, without compulsion either for or against:

We therefore issue this proclamation to give the population, civil and military, of these districts to know that it is imperatively required of them that they carefully observe the Treaty which has been concluded by Our Most Gracious Sovereign the Emperor, and that they must not annoy religious establishments nor raise pretences for disturbance, nor must they treat foreign travellers with wanton disrespect. Every wilful offender will certainly be visited with heavy punishment, without hope of pardon. Obey with trembling!

A special proclamation issued on the 27th of the 9th moon of the 7th Tung-chih (11th November, 1868).

Inclosure 7 in No. 16.

The Viceroy, Tséng Kwo-fan, and Ma, Governor-General of the Two K'wang, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

November 11, 1868.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of yesterday.

With reference to the Huai-kuan question, I (Tséng) at our late interview conceded the point of compensation for damages caused by wrongful acts on the part of the Chinese officials towards British merchants, since the principle was laid down by Her Majesty's Minister at Peking. The Huai-kuan Superintendent will be requested to pay the amount of compensation to you, through the Chin-kiang Taoutae, immediately on receipt of a detailed statement from you.

The official underlings at Huai-kuan who have been guilty of illegal acts have been peremptorily summoned to Nanking for punishment. There will really be no necessity for you to proceed thither. It may be added further that I (Ma) have directed the Huai Yang Taoutae Lin to go to Huai-an, and again place before the Huai-kuan Superintendent Lien the necessity of adhering strictly to Treaty in dealing with foreign-owned goods in transit. Should you still determine to proceed to Huai-kuan, Lin Taoutae has been commissioned to act in concert with you; otherwise Lin will go by

himself, and will see that compensation is granted for the past, and that the Treaty be adhered to in future in all cases jointly affecting native and foreign interests. Even should the Tsung-li Yamên demur to the principle of compensation, we should still fulfil our promise on this point, having passed our word.

It will be very inadvisable to send Ying Taoutae and Li, Salt Commissioner, the two officers appointed to adjust the Yang-chow difficulty, also to take the Huai-kuan question. The press of work at Shanghae, too, will prevent Ying from being long absent from his post.

I, Tsêng, late High Minister for Foreign Trade, did yesterday hand over the seals of that office to Ma. The conduct of the Yang-chow question will be undertaken by us both in conjunction. Ma will take charge of the Huai-kuan question himself.

We request you will accept the announcement above made.

No. 17.

Acting Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 10, 1869.)

My Lord,

Shanghae, November 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information copy of Mr. Consul Medhurst's despatch of the 24th instant, with inclosures, to the address of his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister reporting the settlement of the Yang-chow difficulty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 20, 1868.

IN my despatch dated on board Her Majesty's ship "Rodney" the 13th instant, I had the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I had brought my negotiations at Nanking in respect to redress for the Yang-chow outrage to a satisfactory termination, and that I was on the point of starting for Yang-chow in company with Captain Heneage, R.N., and a suitable escort, for the purpose of seeing my requisitions duly carried into effect.

The course of the gun-boats up the Grand Canal was somewhat retarded during the first day by repeated groundings of Her Majesty's ship "Dove," but the following morning we were more fortunate, and by 2 P.M. on the 15th instant the flotilla steamed successfully past the city to the anchorage assigned to it of the Hsu-Ning gate. The naval and marine battalion, which have been marched from the bivouac of the previous night, in order to lighten the draught of the vessels as much as possible, reached the ferry opposite the gate at the same moment, and the effect of the simultaneous arrivals upon the thousands of native spectators must have been as useful as it was no doubt interesting. On entering the city we found the Hsing-Chiao-ssu, a very commodious and handsome temple, prepared for our reception, and the arrangements for quartering the men and officers could scarcely have been better had they been superintended by ourselves.

The 16th was occupied in the interchange of ceremonial visits between the two Commissioners and local authorities and ourselves. Their courtesy at every meeting was so marked as to be almost oppressive.

On the 17th the Commission met for the first, and indeed only time, for the single interview sufficed to enable us to arrive at a perfect understanding as to the necessary arrangements.

The first subject of discussion was the degradation of the local officials. The Commissioners assured me that the Chih-fu and Chih-hsien, as in fact I already knew from general report, had been dismissed from office, and that this was the utmost that the Viceroy could do without the consent of the Crown. I therefore signified my readiness to be satisfied with this assurance, provided it was communicated to me officially, under the conjoint seals of the Commissioners.

The complicity of the belted gentry I found myself unable to substantiate. Mr. Taylor, whom I produced before the Commission, professed himself incapable of bringing forward a single individual or fact in support of the generally accepted impression that certain of the gentry had been the instigators of the riot, and I had no

alternative but to abandon the prosecution against the persons whose names had been mentioned. Three men from amongst the lower classes, whom the Commissioners had succeeded in securing, were then handed over to the local magistrate for trial and punishment. I have the honour to inclose, in connection with this item, a letter which has since been addressed to me by Mr. Taylor.

The amount to be paid for compensation for losses as per memorandum inclosed in my despatch of 15th September last, was passed without demur. The fact of permanent injury to some of the missionary party I was prepared to establish by the professional opinion, which I obtained through the courtesy of Captain Heneage, from Dr. Fegan, the surgeon of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney." The injuries described are of so peculiar a character, that I found some difficulty in deciding upon the measure of indemnity which would best comport with justice to both sides. It was eventually agreed that 500 taels should be placed in my hands, subject to your Excellency's decision as to its adequacy or otherwise. In close relation to this head of the negotiation came the question of compensation to Chinese who had suffered in person or property by the violence of the mob, or the unjustifiable action of the authorities, as suggested in your despatch of the 15th October last. Mr. Taylor named two instances of the kind, in which he estimated the losses of one individual at 50 dollars 90 cents, but declared himself unable to convey any idea of the loss suffered by the other, the party concerned having left for Peking. The Commissioners having since very liberally consented to divide 150 dollars 90 cents between the two men. They have also with equally commendable consideration agreed to make good Mr. Taylor's expense in renting another house at Chin-kiang, amounting to 120 dollars.

The allowance for repairs to the house (70 dollars) having been included in the original estimate for compensation, and having been accepted as adequate by Mr. Taylor, did not call for discussion.

The question of the issue of a proclamation, thanks to the evasion practised upon me by Tseng and Ting, as reported in my last despatch, cost me some trouble to adjust to my satisfaction, and it was only upon my hinting the necessity of a return to Nanking that I succeeded in inducing the Commissioners to fall in with my proposition. The object I sought to obtain was so to frame the proclamation as that the Chinese should apprehend the true nature of the of the outrage which had been committed, and the full measure of punishment and redress which had followed upon it, and I was anxious that the document should be authenticated by the seals of the Viceroy or his deputies. I inclose for your information, in Chinese and English, the result of my efforts, and I confidently hope that it may have the good effect I intend for it. The stone tablet I consented to make a secondary question, and the accompanying is a translation of the notice which has been agreed upon.

The last demand, the restoration of Mr. Taylor and party to their original home, was agreed to at once, and yesterday it was formally carried into effect by the Commissioners and myself *in propriis personis*. I have cautioned Mr. Taylor, however, to abstain for the present from attracting public notice by bringing his family up or obtruding his ministrations too freely upon the people.

The above arrangements were yesterday confirmed by the Commissioners in an official communication of which I inclose a copy and translation, and the amount of indemnity decided upon accompanied the latter in sycee. My reply is also enclosed, from which it will be observed that sundry details remain yet to be attended to in order to render the reparation as complete as I could wish. The authorities will doubtless lose no time in seeing the omission repaired, and I hope to be able to take leave of them by the 22nd or 23rd at latest.

It will afford your Excellency great gratification to learn that our sojourn in this city, so far, has not been attended by the slightest misunderstanding or mishap as far as the people are concerned; on the contrary, our presence appears to be accepted as a thing of course, and the large number of dollars which our many wants introduce into circulation must have its effect in begetting a genial feeling towards the hitherto feared and detested stranger. The city seems to be in a most wretched condition, more than half of it is in ruins, the work I am told of the rebels who have from time to time visited the neighbourhood; whilst the inhabited portions do not contrast at all favourably as regards squalor and filth, with those of any other of the many Chinese towns which I have visited.

A final despatch, reporting the conclusion of the negotiations and the return of the material guarantee shall be forwarded in due course.

Your, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Mr. Taylor to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 19 1868.

AS you desired we went yesterday to the Yamên of the Kan-tsuen Hsien, where we were shown three men, one of whom Mr. Rudland was able to identify as the man who robbed Mrs. Taylor and others upstairs, and who was leader in the plundering there. His name is Lin Ching. The other two we could not identify. One of them was, I believe, a military Sin-tsai of the name of Kôh; but not the literary graduate who assaulted and threatened several of us. The other man we believe we several times saw among the disorderly rabble, but we do not know that he was one of the actual rioters.

As to tangible evidence against any of the belted gentry, I regret to say that there is none procurable. There seems to be no possibility of obtaining anything beyond the general rumours which were prevalent two months ago, and it would not be easy now to find persons willing to come forward and testify to them in Yang-chow. We had secured some of the anonymous placards, which stated that it had been agreed that the literary graduates would meet on the exercise ground after the examination on the 1st (I think it was) of the 7th moon, when they would proceed with the people to burn up the house and destroy the foreign residents and native servants indiscriminately, but these, unfortunately, were among the many papers which were burnt in the attack, so that any clue which might have been obtained from them is lost. The absence of Li Tai Ye, the landlord of our house, of Ping yu Shan, landlord of the hotel, and others formerly connected with them renders it more difficult for me to procure anything definite.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. HUDSON TAYLOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 17.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

LI, Commissioner of the Salt Gabelle, of the rank of Provincial Treasurer, &c., Ying, Taoutae, of Shanghae, Superintendent of Kiang-nan Maritime Customs, of the rank of Provincial Judge, &c., hereby issue a proclamation for general information.

Whereas we have received the instructions of their Excellencies the High Ministers Foreign Trade, Ma and Tsêng, to adjust matters at Yang-chow, we find that on the 22nd day of August, 1868, evil disposed persons excited the people of Yang-chow to enter the house rented by the British subjects Taylor and others, and violently assault and plunder the inmates, so as to lead to their eventual ejection from the premises, some of them in a seriously wounded condition; and whereas the local authorities were clearly guilty of having neglected to avert the evil in the first instance; it therefore becomes the duty of the high authorities, after the examination into the circumstances, to order the degradation of the city officials, the condign punishment of the ringleaders, the grant of due compensation to the sufferers, the repair of the house, and the restoration of its former inmates.

All this having been done as a matter of simple justice, it now becomes our further duty to issue a public proclamation, and this proclamation is therefore issued, for the purpose of making it clearly understood to all men, high and low, that British subjects possess the liberty to enter the inner land for the pursuit of their lawful purposes, under a Treaty granted by His Most Gracious Majesty the Emperor, and that any one who presumes to insult or annoy such persons in any way, shall meet with condign punishment. Local authorities everywhere, moreover, are to see that they extend due protection to British subjects who may have occasion to appeal to them for assistance or redress.

Let all tremblingly obey.

A special proclamation issued on the 5th day of the 1st moon of the 7th year of Tung Chih (18th November, 1868).

Inclosure 4 in No. 17.

Notice to be engraved on Stone Tablet, and placed within Mr. Taylor's premises at Yang-chow.

(Translation.)

The Prefect of Yang-chow.

WHEREAS, this house has been rented by the British subject Taylor under the sanction of his Consul, and of the local authorities.

No idle or improper persons are allowed to enter and create disturbance. Offenders will be arrested and punished.

Obeys with trembling! A special notice—obey!

Inclosure 5 in No. 17.

Commissioners Li and Ying to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 19, 1868.

IN pursuance of our instructions, with which we have been favoured by the High Ministers for Foreign Trade, Ma and Tsêng, to adjust the Yang-chow difficulty, we now beg to recapitulate point by point the results of our consultations with yourselves:—

1. His Excellency Tsêng has dismissed from office the Yang-chow Prefect Sun, and the Kanch'uan Magistrate Li, for their errors and delinquencies in conducting relations with foreigners.

2. The accusations against the belted gentry are dismissed, as no real proof is found to support the same.

3. Lin-ch'ien, Chang-chin Ch'ien, and Ku Piao, who were concerned in the outrage, have been arrested, and Mr. Taylor has identified them in presence of the Kan-ch'uan Magistrate as being ringleaders. The punishment awarded by Chinese law to ringleaders in a malicious attempt at arson is two months' cangue and banishment in the third degree (beyond the Great Wall); to accessories, the punishment is one degree less.

4. Compensation for losses and expenses is fixed at 1128·40 taels.

5. It is agreed that compensation for bodily injuries be paid to Mr. Rudland, Miss Blatchley and Mrs. Taylor, in the sum of 500 taels, subject to reduction should Her Majesty's Minister consider the amount excessive.

6. We have issued a joint proclamation stating the facts of this case for general information.

7. A notice has been issued by the Yang-chow Prefect for Mr. Taylor to inscribe on a stone tablet.

8. The premises of Mr. Taylor have been repaired, and yesterday that gentleman was invited to take possession of them.

The above points having all been carried out according to our instructions, we now beg as a conclusion to the whole case to address to you this formal despatch, and to request a reply.

We send herewith two boxes containing 1628·40 taels.

Inclosure 6 in No. 17.

Consul Medhurst to Commissioners Li and Ying.

Gentlemen,

Yang-chow, November 20, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated yesterday, in which you recapitulate the result of your deliberations in the matter of the redress of the Yang-chow outrage.

In reply, I have to observe as follows:—

In regard to item No. 3, it is well that you have arrested and condemned three men as ringleaders in the attack upon Mr. Taylor. There must, however, have been more engaged well known to the officials and people of this city. Lin-piao, the Ti-pao, admits that he knew this "Ko" whom Taylor's accusation has specially criminated, and as he is a civil "Hsiu-tsai," there can surely be no difficulty in laying hands upon him. Moreover, the prisoners already apprehended must of necessity be able to give information as regards their accomplices. I expect, therefore, that punishment shall be visited upon others than those named.

As regards No. 5, you have omitted to officialize the condition agreed upon that, in the event of the 500 taels compensation being considered by Her Majesty's Minister as insufficient, any further sum he may require shall be paid.

As regards No. 6, I have every reason to be satisfied with the proclamation which has been issued; but I have failed to see the document exhibited in more than one spot, and that is the gate of this temple. I need scarcely explain that the proclamation is not for our enlightenment, but for that of the Chinese inhabitants of this city, and that to this end it is essential that the document shall be posted at every gate, Yamên, and temple in the place. Besides, it is as much to your interest as to ours that what is effected now in the way of dealing out redress should be done efficiently. Evil-disposed people have only to discover that the officials are not in earnest in their proceedings, to be encouraged in a repetition of their mal-practices, which will as certainly be followed by further visitations of this nature.

As regards No. 7, I must request that the duty of inscribing the stone tablet shall devolve on the local officials, and not upon Mr. Taylor.

With the above qualifications I have to express myself gratified with the energy and dispatch you have evinced in carrying out the Viceroy's instructions. I hope to be able before taking my departure to notify my entire satisfaction with your proceedings.

The indemnity money, comprising 1,128·40 taels for the mission, compensation for injury 500 taels, the same for Pêng and Wang 150 dollars 90 cents, and rent 120 dollars, I hereby beg to acknowledge the receipt of. Should the result of the assay of the aggregate amount show any surplus in your favour, I hereby hold myself liable to refund it at Chin-kiang.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 18.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 14, 1869.*

I NEED scarcely inform you, that Her Majesty's Government have been awaiting with much anxiety the issue of the very serious question which originated in the attack on British Missionaries at Yang-chow-foo in the month of August last. That anxiety was happily removed a few days since by the receipt, through Mr. Forrest, of copies of Mr. Medhurst's despatches to you of the 13th and 20th of November, reporting that matter had been settled.

But I cannot dismiss the subject without some observations, and although I may expect to receive from you a final report on the matter, the bearing which what has passed has upon my communications with Mr. Burlingame, of which you have been informed by my despatches of the 30th of December last and of the 13th instant,* renders it necessary that I should not defer making them.

I have before me your despatches of the 12th and 29th October, and Mr. Medhurst's despatches to you of the 27th and 30th August, 3rd, 15th, and 17th of September, 15th and 29th of October, and 3rd, 6th, 13th, and 20th of November.

In the first place, I have to state to you, that I consider Mr. Medhurst to have acted very rightly in proceeding at once to the seat of outrage, and I will not criticize his taking up with him a considerable armed force, under the explanation to the local authorities that it was required for his protection on the road, and that his intentions were amicable, and only directed to obtaining from the local authorities a reasonable reparation for the wrong done to the missionaries.

Mr. Medhurst's proceedings at Yang-chow-foo, and subsequently at Nanking in his endeavours to induce the Viceroy to afford redress, were characterized by prudence and firmness, and as such entitle him to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

The subsequent stages through which the affair passed, I cannot look upon as equally satisfactory.

Mr. Medhurst very properly reported to you from the first what had happened to the missionaries, and the course which he proposed to pursue, and afterwards when he failed in overcoming the reluctance of the Viceroy to afford redress, he, as in duty bound, placed the matter in your hands.

You, on your part, very properly called upon the Central Government to afford redress, and Her Majesty's Government are glad to recognise in Prince Kung's letters,

* See "China, No. 1 (1869)," Nos. 2 and 11.

and your own comments on them, the fullest admission on the part of the Central Government of their responsibility, and the readiness with which they took measures that proved effectual for bringing the local authorities as well as the Viceroy of Nanking to a proper sense of their respective duties, the result being that full satisfaction was made for the outrage complained of.

Thus far matters followed their proper course; the Central Government was appealed to for redress against the Provincial Government, and proved its willingness and ability to obtain it.

But I will not conceal from you that Her Majesty's Government would have much preferred that the matter should have been left to the action of the Central Government, subject of course to the view which Her Majesty's Government might take of it if that action were withheld or proved unavailing, than that the aid of Her Majesty's naval forces should have been invoked in order to bring pressure or to inflict punishment on the provincial authorities, irrespective of the result of the demand which you had made on the Central Government for redress.

The persons of the missionaries were safe; the injury to their property had been completed many weeks before; there was no immediate emergency to be met; the question of redress due was properly debateable at Peking, and if that redress had been withheld, the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government might without any inconvenient delay have been ascertained as to the course which it would be in such a contingency expedient to adopt.

Her Majesty's Government are willing to make every allowance for the difficulties in which you were placed in having to deal with a question of so unusual a character in the shape that it came before you. My communication with Mr. Burlingame will show you for your future guidance the course which under similar circumstances you should pursue. The active interference of Her Majesty's Naval Forces should only be had recourse to in cases of sudden emergency, and of immediate danger to lives or property, but when once the matter is removed for diplomatic discussion at Peking, Her Majesty's Government should be left free to determine, if occasion should arise for doing so, what is best to be done to enforce upon the Central Government the obligation not only themselves to observe Treaties, but to compel Provisional authorities also to observe them.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 19.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 20.)

Sir,

Admiralty, January 19, 1869.

WITH reference to my letter of the 15th December, inclosing the copy of a despatch from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, on the subject of the outrages committed at Yang-chow on British subjects, and the hostile feeling exhibited towards them at Chin-kiang, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, that it appears from the reports of Her Majesty's Minister in China, and of Mr. Medhurst, Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghae, that they mainly attribute the failure of obtaining compliance with the demand made on the Viceroy of Nanking for satisfaction on account of these outrages, to the fact of Commander Bush, of Her Majesty's Ship "Rinaldo," having suddenly left Nanking in that sloop on the 12th August and returned to Shanghae.

On perusal of the papers, my Lords do not find that Mr. Medhurst made any protest to Commander Bush against the withdrawal of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" from Nanking, and Sir Henry Keppel states that the Commander was suffering from dysentery to a degree which did not admit of his removal to another ship, and that he has since been invalidated for the preservation of his life; but their Lordships will make further inquiry as to the exact circumstances under which he arrived at the decision to take the ship back to Shanghae.

But assuming that Mr. Medhurst's statement is entirely correct, my Lords would observe, for Lord Clarendon's consideration, whether this case would not seem to point out that it may be advisable for the future that Consular authorities should be cautioned not to call upon the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships of war, which may be within

their reach, for the purpose of coercing local authorities, except in cases of emergency in which life or property may be in immediate danger.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINÉ.

No. 20.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24, 1869.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward for the information of your Lordship copy of Mr. Medhurst's despatch of the 21st instant, and inclosures to Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B., reporting having received full satisfaction with respect to the Huai-kuan Barrier question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 21, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatch of yesterday's date reporting my proceedings in reference to the Yang-chow outrage case, I have now much satisfaction in acquainting your Excellency that I have been equally fortunate in obtaining full compensation for the unjustifiable action of the Superintendent of Customs at the Huai-kuan Barrier.

Immediately after the conclusion of the interview with the Commissioners upon the subject of the Yang-chow affair, I addressed a letter to Lin, the Taoutae of Huai-an-foo, requesting him to meet me for the purpose of adjusting the Huai-kuan claims, as had been directed by the Viceroys, Ma and Tsêng. I herewith inclose translation of my letter. This communication I sent under flying seal to Ying Taoutae, the second Commissioner here, with a request that he would forward it, conjecturing that he would busy himself to see that as little time as possible was lost in complying with my demand. The result proved that I was not far wrong in this supposition. Ying Taoutae excused himself from sending on the despatch on the plea that he had a better plan to propose, whereby time and trouble might be economized. This was nothing less than that he should find the means of paying the compensation himself and recovering it from the Superintendent at his leisure.

I had previously held more than one anxious conference with Captain Hencage as to the practicability of ascending the canal as far as Huai-an, and he had informed me that the reports which he had received from the Commander of the "Dove" as to the condition of the Grand Canal, above this were such as to discourage him from attempting the voyage save under a most pressing necessity. To make the attempt with boats and a few men he very rightly judged to be highly inexpedient after the important and practical demonstration which had been made thus far. Under these circumstances Ying Taoutae's offer appeared to us both to present a most happy method of arriving at a practical solution of the difficulty, and I accordingly closed with it forthwith.

The Huai-kuan claims are set forth in the documents which accompany this despatch. Ying Taoutae, after a brief examination, accepted them as they stood, merely suggesting the deduction of 50 taels from the expense incurred by Messrs. Carnie and Michie in proceeding in search of their goods, and some small items for jade rings, &c., charged by the Chinese. These I acquiesced in, and the actual amount agreed to is shown in the accompanying letter addressed by me to Ying, from which it will be likewise observed that the money has been duly paid.

Allowing every consideration for the natural anxiety felt by Ying to assist his colleague at Huai-an towards a speedy settlement of the question at issue, and to obviate the necessity of any further detention of the force at Yang-chow than is positively necessary, I consider that Ying deserves every credit for the courage which he has exhibited in thus taking upon himself a serious pecuniary responsibility, and I trust your Excellency will not object to bring his conduct in the matter to the favourable notice of the proper authorities at Peking. It is only just to Ying, moreover, that I

should take this opportunity of recording my opinion that to his wise counsels with Vice-roys Tsêng and Ma, based upon his better experience of foreigners and their ways, that I owe much of the ready and unqualified submission which they yielded to the pressure that was exercised upon them. His influence at this place, too, has in been every way for the best. Li, his co-Commissioner, I soon found to be one of those silly, apathetic men so common amongst the Chinese official class, and had I no better material to work upon than Li and the local magistrates, I should certainly have been able to effect nothing without using more of threatening and invective than I cared to employ.

The punishment of the late Superintendent of the Huai-kuan Barrier for the share he undoubtedly had in supporting the illegal proceedings of his underlings, I must leave your Excellency to effect through the authorities to whom he is amenable at Peking. As regards the present incumbent and his future acts, I apprehend that the heavy mulct which has been exacted will prove to be a sufficient warning to him not to interfere unnecessarily with foreigners and their property when proceeding legitimately past the barrier.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Consul Medhurst to the Taoutae Lin.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 17, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, copy of a communication which I have received from their Excellencies Tsêng and Ma on the subject of the claims preferred by British subjects for compensation on account of losses sustained through the illegal detention of their goods and servants at the Huai-kuan Barrier.

The claims are stated in an annex to this letter, and detailed statements thereof can be furnished if necessary. Meanwhile, I have arrived at this city in company with Captain Heneage, of Her Majesty's Royal Navy, who has under his command two gun-boats and a force of 300 men, for the purpose of adjusting the difficulty which has arisen out of the outrage committed upon British subjects in August last, and we are prepared either to meet you here or at Huai-kuan, in order to receive the compensation in question. In the latter event, it will be necessary for you to order suitable quarters to be prepared for our reception, and that of the force above-mentioned at Huai-an-foo.

You will much oblige me by giving an early answer to this communication, as Viceroy Tsêng has placed in our hands the steamer "Tienche" as a guarantee for the fulfilment of all the objects of the present mission, and we are anxious to return the vessel as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

MEMORANDUM of Claims.

	Taels.
First claim by Mr. Canny, for manufactures detained, as already recorded in letter to Ting Futai	227 76
Second claim by same individual for manufactures detained	201 83
Third claim by same individual, on account of lily-flowers detained	126 61
Claim for losses and expenses sustained by Mr. Canny's shroff	316 49
	872 69

Besides the above, I shall have to require some compensation to be made to Mr. Canny's shroff and boatman for the punishment which was inflicted upon them, and likewise upon Mr. Bean's shroff for the losses and punishment to which he was subjected. All the necessary facts are already known to the high authorities through Tsai Taoutae, of Chin-kiang.

There, moreover, appear to be some goods missing in consequence of the sudden and violent abduction of These must be found, or their value, amounting to 896 taels, will have to be made good.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Memorandum of Losses sustained at the Huai-kuan Barrier.

(No. 1.)

C. F. R. Allen, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate, Chin-kiang.

Sir, *Chin-kiang, November 5, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour of informing you that, on the 31st August last, I applied for and obtained a transit certificate to Tsing-kiang-foo for the following goods sent me by Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co., and that, in consequence of my shroff having been illegally imprisoned by the mandarins in that district, I have lost sight of them.

Their value is:—

	Ch. taels.
500 pieces grey shirtings, at 2 taels 40 m. per piece	1,200
250 doz. handkerchiefs, at 8 m. per doz.	200
12 pieces crape lastings, at 8 taels 50 m. per piece	102
	1,502
Less sycee received	606
	896

The man has been subjected to flogging and treated very severely, and as he is still detained a prisoner may I beg you will be pleased to effect his release, and recover the goods or their value.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. BEAN.

(No. 2.)

MEMORANDUM of Moneys extorted from my Shroff during his detention at the
Huai-kuan Barrier.

Expenses of quarters at San Yang Huen's yamèn :—	Cash.
Paid to Chá	170,000
Amounts paid to police and gaolers, extorted	36,000
Cost of clothes, their own having been taken away	14,000
Chow-chow in yamèn	45,000
Paid police sent in charge of men from San Yang Hsien to Pao Ying	22,000
Ditto from Pao Ying to Yang-chow	25,000
Cost of messengers and boats to here	37,000
Ditto from here	20,000
Detention of cargo-boat 35 days, at 1,500 per day	52,500
Ching Kiang Pu Bank orders stolen	12,000
Total	433,500

Cash 433,500, at 64 per 1,000	Ch. taels.
	277.44

Clothes stolen:—	8 c.
1 long silk coat, and 1 short ditto	17 0
1 pair shoes and 1 cap	1 50
1 jade ring	35 0
	53 50

Exchange at 73	39.5
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(E. and O. E.)	316.49
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Chin-kiang, November 7, 1868.

For J. M. Canny,
(Signed) F. CARNIE.

(No. 3.)

CLAIM for Losses incurred in consequence of Detention of Goods at the Huai-kuan Barrier.

	Ch. taels.	Cts.
17 bales (850 pieces) grey shirtings, received per "Rona," 9th October (10 bales sold 30th October, 7 bales 6th November), 10 bales (500 pieces) worth 1,150 taels, on which interest for 21 days at 12 per cent. per annum was lost	7	28
7 bales (350 pieces) worth 777 taels, on which interest for 28 days at 12 per cent. was lost	7	15
Loss of market on these 7 bales (350 pieces); on 9th October they were worth 2 taels 22 c. per piece. Sold 6th November, 2 taels 18 c. per piece. Loss 4 c. per piece	14	0
25 bales (1,250 pieces) grey shirtings, received per "Hirado" 12th October. Interest on ditto, 2,762 taels 50 c. for 12 days, at 12 per cent. per annum	10	90
15 bales (750 pieces) worth, 12th October, 2 taels 21 c. per piece. Sold, 24th October, 2 taels 18 c. per piece. Loss, 3 c. per piece	22	50
20 pieces (1,000 pieces) grey shirtings, <i>ex</i> "Timsin," 16th October, worth, on 16th October, 2 taels 22 c. per piece. Sold, 24th October, at 2 taels 18 c. per piece. Loss, 4 c. per piece	40	0
	101	83
Expenses of Mr. Carnie's and Mr. Michie's journey to Tsêng Kiang-foo, including loss of time, &c.	100	0
	201	83

N.B.—This trip enabled me to dispose of a quantity of goods, which would otherwise have increased my claim. Five boats and a large number of men were engaged.

(E. and O. E.)

Chin-kiang, November 7, 1868.

For J. M. Canny,
(Signed) F. CARNIE.

(No. 4.)

CLAIM for Loss of Market and detention of Huai-kuan Barrier, near Ching-chiang-pu, of a cargo of Dried Lily-flowers, coming down under transit-pass to this port.

	Ch. taels	Cts.
198 piculs 49 catties dried lily flowers, costing 754 taels 26 c. Interest for thirty-five days' detention, at 1 per cent. per month	8	68
Selling weight, 180 piculs 20 catties, allowing for cargo drying on voyage 4 piculs, leaves a loss in weight of 14 piculs 29 catties, at 5 taels 10 c.	72	88
Loss of market on 180 piculs 20 catties, sold at 4 taels 85 c.; market price a month ago being 5 taels 10 c. Difference 25 c. per picul	45	5
	126	61

(E. and O. E.)

Chin-kiang, November 14, 1868.

For J. M. Canny,
(Signed) F. CARNIE.

(No. 5.)

LIST of Lost Articles belonging to Mr. Brown's shroff, Chín-yü-ting.

- 1 long shirt, grey Hoo-chow silk (double).
- 1 blue quilted long robe, lined with Hoo-chow silk.
- 1 light blue Ningpo satin double jacket.
- 1 rice coloured (yellowish) Hoo-chow silk outer trousers.
- 1 pouch containing hunting-watch, value 35 dollars, one toothpick, and 12 dollars in cash.
- 1 folding-fan, in case.
- 1 jade stone armlet, value 20 dollars.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Consul Medhurst to Taoutae Ying.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 20, 1868.

I HAVE received your note of the 19th instant, in which, in the absence of the Huai Yang Taoutae, you take upon yourself the responsibility of adjusting the claims for compensation which I have preferred against the Superintendent of the Hai-kuan Barrier; I have likewise to acknowledge the payment of 872.69 taels on Mr. Canny's account, of 58.40 taels on Yen Sên-tang's, and Chin Yu-ting's account, of 43.80 taels also on Chin Yu-teng's account, and of 896 taels on Mr. Bean's account, making in all 1,870.89 taels.

The amount first named is in excess of that agreed upon by us together on the 18th instant, by 62.77 taels, which represent, if you remember, two deductions, viz., 50 taels from Mr. Canny's account, and 12.77 taels from Yen Sên-tang's account. I therefore hold myself indebted to you in that sum, and I inclose a debit note accordingly, which shall be cashed by me at Chin-kiang on presentation there, through Tsai Taoutae. Should a surplus in your favour appear upon the shroffage of these moneys at Chin-kiang, I likewise hold myself liable to make it good to you.

The 896 taels I accept on the conditions named in your note, but subject to the further qualification which we agreed to on the 18th instant, and which you appear to have forgotten, namely, that should the goods not be recovered within twenty days' time, the money must be considered as conclusively forfeited. I inclose my conditional debit note for this amount accordingly.

These payments, together with the trial and punishment of the underlings of the Huai-kuan Barrier Superintendent, will suffice for the adjustment of the question at issue. I must, however, yet look to you to state to me the nature of the penalty awarded to these men. The reprehensible conduct of the Superintendent himself, I shall request Her Majesty's Minister to bring to the notice of the Supreme Government.

I have much pleasure in adding my hearty acknowledgments to yourself personally for the energetic measures you have taken to secure the adjustment of this very troublesome affair. I shall not fail to bring your services to the notice of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 21.

Consul Medhurst to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24, 1869.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, December 4, 1868.

FOR the information of your Lordship, I have the honour to inclose copies of my despatches to his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister, dated the 26th November and 2nd instant, reporting the satisfactory termination of my mission to Yang-chow, and my return to my post.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 26, 1868.

MY despatches of the 20th and 21st instant have already placed your Excellency in possession of all my proceedings in this city up to those dates. They stated how the redress requisite in the Yang-chow matter had, with the exception of some subordinate details, been duly accorded by the authorities, and how, in the Huai-kuan Barrier case, full compensation had been made for the damage which had been sustained.

The details in connection with the Yang-chow affair, a memorandum of which will be found in Inclosure 6 of my despatch of the 20th instant, have, with one exception, that of

the apprehension and punishment of the man Ko, been carried into effect. The Commissioners and local authorities pledged themselves that Ko should be relentlessly pursued until found and brought to trial; but as I could not very well accept such a pledge as sufficient under the circumstances, whilst an indefinite detention of my material guarantee would have proved embarrassing to us, as it would have been unfair to them, I proposed that a reasonable sum in sycee, say 6,000 taels, should be lodged with me as a guarantee that every appliance in the power of the local authorities should be used towards securing the man's ultimate apprehension, and that in the event of the failure of these authorities to produce him within the time prescribed by law for the discovery of such offenders, they should be reported to the Emperor for dismissal from office. This proposition was, after some trouble, agreed to, and Ying Taoutae finding the money, it was paid to me yesterday evening, and the steamer's release granted accordingly. I inclose a translation of the receipt which I have given for the sum pledged. I likewise append translation of the Commissioners' final letter, in which the sentence passed upon two of the condemned men is plainly stated.

In the Huai-kuan Barrier case, the compensation had no sooner been made than a new complication arose, much to my annoyance and to that of the Commissioners, in the alleged further detention of fifty-nine bales of merchandize belonging to the same firm. I lost no time in notifying the Commissioners that Captain Heneage and myself had come to the conclusion that a personal visit to the barrier presented the only effectual method of releasing the goods and preventing a repetition of such unjustifiable proceedings on the part of the Superintendent, and I applied officially for boats to be provided for the conveyance of the entire force on the 27th instant. This had the effect of eliciting a letter from the Commissioners, copy of which I have the honour to inclose. On comparing this letter with Mr. Canny's Memoranda, I found that but thirty-three of the detained bales were amongst those represented to have been passed. At the same time there was no evidence forthcoming to show that the remainder had not passed since the date of the Superintendent's communication, and as it seemed highly improbable, upon the face of it, that the Superintendent would continue to detain goods after the distinct pledge given, and after having been informed of the mulct which had been already paid upon his account, I, after consultation with Captain Heneage, decided upon accepting the Commissioners' letter as decisive, and the expedition was countermanded accordingly. Should I prove to have been in any way deceived, I have protected myself against the risk by a clause which will be observed in my receipt, and by which I shall be empowered, if necessary, to sequester any portion of the amount in hand I may think fit.

I may thus, I think, pronounce the objects of the Mission to have been entirely fulfilled, and I trust that the results of my efforts may prove as acceptable to your Excellency as they are satisfactory to myself. The success which has attended them is, I honestly feel, mainly due to the energetic and efficient co-operation which I have throughout received from Captain Heneage. No obstacle has daunted him, no detail has wearied him; but he has followed me in the negotiation from beginning to end, even into its most vexatious minutiae, with a helpful counsel and strong support which have been invaluable to me. Captain Heneage also merits at your Excellency's hands high praise for the masterly manner in which he has placed a body of more than 300 men at this distance from the squadron, and for the perfect discipline which he has maintained in the force throughout its fourteen days' stay on shore. The latter feature has been so remarkable as to attract the observation and approbation of the Chinese authorities, and I need scarcely point out how the slightest laxity in discipline might have irritated the people, and thus have worked prejudice to the very interests which it was our object to promote.

I also have the honour to bring to your Excellency's favourable notice the conduct of Messrs. Stronach and Allen during their attendance on this special service. It has been such as to confirm all previously recorded reports of their efficiency and attention to duty.

In order to inform the public generally of the results which have thus been attained I have taken upon myself to issue a Notification, copy of which I inclose, and I trust its tenour may have your approval.

A Memorandum of all the expenses attending the Mission shall be submitted as soon as the accounts can be closed and made up.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Receipt.

I HEREBY acknowledge to have received from his Excellency the Taoutae Ying the sum of 6,000 taels, Treasury weight, to be lodged with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, returnable under certain conditions, viz.: that, in case of failure on the part of the Yang-chow authorities to arrest the civilian Ko within the term allowed by Chinese law for the arrest of persons guilty of robbery, the said authorities shall be reported to the Throne; if Ko be arrested before this term expires, the money will be returned at once.

The retention of the above guarantee is in any case subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Minister.

The steamer "Tien-chi" is hereby returned in sign of the conclusion of the case.

It is understood that any losses caused by further detention of goods at the Huai-kuan Barrier shall be made good out of this sum.

Signed at Yang-chow on the 23rd day of November, 1868.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST, *Consul.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Commissioner Li and Taoutae Ying to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Yang-chow, November 14, 1868.

WITH reference to the outrage upon the Mission-house at Yang-chow, we have the honour to inform you that Lin ch'un has been sentenced as ringleader in a malicious attempt at arson to the punishment accorded by law, that is, two months' cangue, and banishment of the third degree;* Chang Chin-chun is sentenced, as having been accessory, to two months' cangue and banishment for three years. The Magistrate has been charged to report the sentences to the high authorities.

The military graduate Ko in consequence of the failure of Mr. Taylor to identify him, and of the want of evidence against him, has been temporarily set at liberty under bail to appear whenever required.

We have given directions to the Kan-ch'uan Magistrate to take the most careful and secret measures to discover traces of the civilian Ko, and to have his constables strictly enjoined to arrest him within a given date.

Able detectives have been dispersed in different directions to discover other accessories to that outrage.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

Commissioner Li and Taoutae Ying to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Yang-chow, November 24, 1868.

WE beg to inform you that we received at noon this day a despatch from Lieu, Superintendent of Customs at Huai-kuan, in reply to ours, calling on him forthwith to release fifty-nine bales of piece-goods belonging to Mr. Canny, and to undertake, in his public despatch in reply, that no infraction of the Treaty shall ever occur again.

The despatch runs as follows:—

"On the 17th October, when I took over charge of this office, I gave peremptory orders to the clerks and other underlings in all barrier stations under my control, that, whenever goods covered by a Chin-kiang transit certificate arrived at their stations, they are immediately, without the slightest detention, to be passed on. Since then, I received copies of the Treaty and Regulations from your deputy, Hu, and I at once shaped my conduct in accordance with them. On the 21st instant I was informed by Lin, Taoutae, that some piece-goods were under detention; but, on investigation, I found that two lots, both belonging to Mr. Canny, had passed the barrier, one on the 13th November, and one on the 17th. On receipt of your despatch I again took pains to have inquiries made, and the result is that no boat containing foreign piece-goods is found to be detained. I forward a list of boats and their cargoes which passed on the 20th November. I

* *i.e.*, to the nearest frontier, to be slave to the military.

undertake that, in future, the Treaty and Regulations shall be carefully adhered to, and that no infraction thereof shall ever occur again. I desire you will be so good as to communicate the above to the British Consul."

We append the list of goods passed on the 20th November, and, in return, beg that the document by which the steamer was placed in your hands may be forwarded to us to enable us to report the definitive conclusion of the case.

LIST of Goods passed on the 20th November.

Grey shirtings, 5 bales (250 pieces).					
Mr. Bean,	"	8	"	(400	") Chin-chang-pu.
Mr. Canny	"	3	"	(150	") Hsu-chow.
"	"	3	"	(150	") Chin-chiang-pu.
"	"	4	"	(200	") Hsu-chow.
"	"	7	"	(350	") "
"	T-cloths	1	"	(50	") "
"	Grey shirtings,	7	"	(350	") Chin-chiang-pu.
"	"	3	"	(150	") "
"	"	5	"	(250	") Hsu-chow.
"	"	1	"	(50	") .

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

Notification.

Yang-chow, November 26, 1868.

THE Undersigned has much satisfaction in announcing, for general information, that a due measure of redress has been afforded for the outrage committed upon British subjects in this city in August last, and that the Huai-kuan and Chin-kiang difficulties have been satisfactorily adjusted.

In the matter of Yang-chow, the local authorities who held office at the date of the outrage have been dismissed, and indemnity has been paid on account of the losses and injuries sustained by the missionaries, their servants, and their native friends, as follows:—

	Taels	c.
Losses of missionaries and servants, inclusive of repairs to premises	..	1,128 40
Injuries (subject to opinion of Her Majesty's Minister as regards increase or decrease of amount)	..	500 0
Chinese landlord and carpenter, 270 dollars 90 c.	..	197 75
		1,826 15

A proclamation by the Viceroys Tsêng and Ma, and Futai Ting, has likewise been extensively promulgated, and another by the Commissioners Li and Ying (translations of which are appended; a large and handsome stone tablet has been erected upon Mr. Taylor's premises bearing a cautionary inscription (a translation of which is also annexed); the missionary party, including the female members, have been invited back and formally reinstated; two of the ringleaders in the riot (one of them recognized by Mr. Taylor as the individual who robbed the ladies and led the plunderers up-stairs) have been sentenced, one to the cangue for two months and banishment into slavery for life on the frontier, and the other to the cangue for two months and banishment for three years; and a sum of 6,000 taels has been lodged in the hands of the Undersigned as a guarantee that a literary graduate named Ko, who has absconded (the sole member of the gentry against whom any positive evidence has been forthcoming), shall be produced and duly punished by the local authorities within the time specified by law for the discovery of such offenders, failing which the local authorities themselves are to be dismissed from office.

As regards the Huai-kuan barrier, compensation has been made on account of losses sustained by the British subjects concerned, as well as on account of the losses and injuries sustained by their servants, as follows:—

	Taels	c.
Compensation to Mr. Canny	..	506 20
Compensation to his shroff for losses and expenses	..	303 72
Compensation to Mr. Bean's shroff, for losses	..	43 80
Compensation to Mr. Canny's and Mr. Bean's shroffs, for ill-usage	..	58 40
Compensation to Mr. Bean for value of goods lost sight of, to be refunded provided said goods are produced within a given time	..	896 0
		1,808 12

The guarantee of 6,000 taels above referred to is likewise to be held liable, during its retention, for any further damages which the Superintendent of the Huai-kuan barrier may be proved to have occasioned in contravention of the Treaty.

In connection with Chin-kiang, the only difficulty experienced was in the peaceable occupation of certain premises rented by Mr. Taylor within the city walls. These have been duly made over to him, and a lease formally signed and recorded.

The satisfactory solution of difficulties, which at one time assumed very serious proportions, is mainly due to the hearty co-operation of Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer, but for whose energy in taking up the matter in the first instance, and perseverance in carrying it through to the end, a less happy result might have been looked for.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

(Translation.)

Ma, Governor-General of the Two Kiang and Imperial Commissioner for Foreign Trade, &c.; Tsêng, lately Acting Imperial Commissioner for Foreign Trade and Governor-General of the Two Kiang, &c.; Ting, Governor of Kiang-su, hereby issue a proclamation for general information.

Whereas the preaching of religion is sanctioned by Treaty, and all persons are at liberty to become proselytes thereto, according as it suits their convenience, without compulsion either for or against.

We therefore issue this proclamation to give the population, civil and military, of these districts to know that it is required of them that they carefully observe the Treaty which has been concluded by Our Most Gracious Sovereign the Emperor, and that they must not annoy religious establishments nor raise pretences for disturbance, nor must they treat foreign travellers with wanton disrespect. Every wilful offender will certainly be visited with heavy punishment, without hope of pardon.

Obey with trembling.

A special Proclamation issued on the 27th day of the 9th month of the 7th year of Tung Chih (11th November, 1868).

(Translation.)

Notice to be engraved on Stone Tablet and placed within Mr. Taylor's premises at Yang-chow.

The Prefect of Yang-chow.

Whereas this house has been rented by the British subject Taylor under the sanction of his Consul and of the local authorities.

No idle or improper persons are allowed to enter and create a disturbance. Offenders will be arrested and punished.

Obey with trembling.

A special notice. Obey.

(Translation.)

Li, Commissioner of the Salt Gabelle, &c.; and Ying, Taoutae of Shanghae, Superintendent of Kiang-nan Maritime Customs, &c., hereby issue a Proclamation for general information.

Whereas we have received the instructions of their Excellencies the high Ministers for foreign trade, Ma and Tsêng, to adjust matters at Yang-chow, we find that on the 22nd day of August, 1868, evil-disposed persons excited the people of Yang-chow to enter the house rented by the British subject Taylor and others, and violently assault and plunder the inmates, so as to lead to their eventual ejection from the premises, some of them in a seriously wounded condition; and whereas the local authorities were clearly guilty of having neglected to avert the evil in the first instance, it therefore became the duty of the high authorities, after clear examination into the circumstances, to order the degradation of the city officials, the condign punishment of the ringleaders, the grant of due compensation to the sufferers, the repair of the house, and the restoration of its former inmates.

All this having been done as a matter of simple justice, it now becomes our further duty to issue a public Proclamation, and this Proclamation is therefore issued for the purpose of

making it clearly understood to all men, high and low, that British subjects possess the liberty to enter the inner land for the pursuit of their lawful purposes, under a Treaty granted by His Most Gracious Majesty the Emperor, and that any one who presumes to insult or annoy such persons, in any way, shall meet with condign punishment. Local authorities everywhere, moreover, are to see that they extend due protection to British subjects who may have occasion to appeal to them for assistance or redress.

Let all tremblingly obey.

A special Proclamation issued on the 15th day of the 10th moon of the 7th year of Tung Chih (18th November, 1868).

Inclosure 6 in No. 21.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, December 2, 1868.

IN continuation of my despatch dated at Yang-chow the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to report that I left that city on the 28th of November, distributed the several sums paid as indemnity as I passed through Chin-kiang on the 30th, and returned to my post here on the 1st instant.

Whilst at Chin-kiang I was informed that the few bales regarding the continued detention of which at Huai-kuan there had appeared to be some doubt, had all been passed on since the date of the Superintendent's letter of apology, a translation of which formed Inclosure No. 3 in the despatch above alluded to.

Before taking my final departure from Yang-chow, a member of the French Roman Catholic Mission there, whom I happened to have a conversation with, called my attention to the fact that the Proclamation which had been issued by the Commissioners was so exclusively directed towards the toleration of the efforts of British missionaries in that locality that, practically, it would have the effect of confirming an interdict which had been laid upon the French Mission and Orphanage by the literati simultaneously with their attack upon Mr. Taylor's Mission. Feeling convinced, upon reflection, that it would be inexpedient, even in our own interests, to leave it in doubt that the persons and privileges of foreigners generally were to be respected, and being naturally anxious to assist the subjects of a friendly State as far as lay in my power, I presented the missionary with a sealed copy of the Viceroy's Proclamation (see Inclosure 3 in despatch of the 20th of November last) for exhibition in his own premises, and procured for him the local authorities' official order declaring the admission of orphans into the French establishments to be lawful and right. This, with what has previously been done in the interest of the British missionaries, will, I trust, have the effect of rendering toleration of all foreigners and their religions an understood thing throughout Yang-chow. At Huai-gan, the neighbouring Fu to the northward, I regret to say the Roman Catholic missionaries at present find the city gates persistently closed against them. But this is a subject, I believe, which is now pending reference to His Imperial Majesty's Minister; and apart from this I could not very well have made a special point of it in my negotiations with the Commissioners, seeing that I had no acquaintance with the merits of the question in dispute, and was in possession of no instructions to prefer any demands in reference thereto.

Your, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 22.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 25.)

Sir,

Admiralty, January 23, 1869.

WITH reference to Admiralty letter of the 19th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter dated the 22nd instant, from Commander Bush, late of Her Majesty's sloop "Rinaldo," explaining the circumstances under which he withdrew that sloop from Nanking on the 12th August last, whilst negotiations were pending respecting the outrage perpetrated by Chinese upon English missionaries living at Yang-chow.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HENRY BRIGGS.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Commander Bush to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

London, January 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, inclosing copies of letters from Sir Rutherford Alcock and Mr. Medhurst respecting the outrage perpetrated by Chinese upon some English missionaries living at Chang-chow. In compliance with their Lordships directions, I beg to offer the following explanation:—

In the beginning of September, 1868, I received a letter from Mr. Medhurst, asking me if I could send him a guard to Chin-kiang, to escort him to Yang-chow, to protect him from insult or injury whilst he visited the house lately occupied by the missionaries, and, if possible, he would be glad of my presence and advice.

As I had previously received a requisition from Sir Rutherford Alcock for a gun-boat, or some other vessel to accompany Mr. Medhurst to Nankin respecting the working of some coal-mines, and considering that a guard unsupported by the presence of a man-of-war might induce an attack from a disorderly and ignorant mob, which would have brought about the gravest complications, I determined to take the "Rinaldo" to Chin-kiang; although it is almost without precedent that such an important port as Shanghai should ever be left even for one day without the presence of a man-of-war.

I arrived at Chin-kiang on the morning of the 5th of September, and in a conversation with Mr. Medhurst respecting the outrage, he gave me to understand most distinctly that he was acting wholly and solely on his own responsibility, I therefore put the case to him, "Should the officials of Yang-chow refuse to receive us, or admit us into the city, what course should we pursue?" He replied, we should have to return, as I should not be justified in forcing an entrance, or, in fact, making any hostile demonstration whatever.

After visiting Yang-chow with the Consul—accompanied by a guard composed of nearly the whole of the ship's company, to prevent the possibility of his being insulted by the mob—I proceeded on the 10th of September to Nankin, and on the morning of the 11th September, being myself unable to leave my bed, I directed Lieutenant Farquharson, Senior Lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," to proceed with the Consul to wait upon the Viceroy, accompanied by a guard of honour. On their return to the ship in a conversation with Mr. Medhurst he gave me to understand that the Viceroy had expressed his willingness to comply with his, Mr. Medhurst's, requests, and that he, the Viceroy, would send a letter to that effect that night or the next morning.

Considering the presence of the "Rinaldo" no longer necessary, as I had protected the Consul from the possibility of being insulted at Yang-chow, I determined to return to Shanghai, having offered to remain if Mr. Medhurst considered the presence of the "Rinaldo" necessary. He told me that the ship remaining would do no good, but that he should wait for the letter from the Viceroy in a house-boat belonging to a Mr. Canny, Acting Vice-Consul.

At the time of my withdrawing the "Rinaldo" from Nanking, it never entered my head that the presence simply of a small man-of-war could have the slightest effect in influencing the action of the Viceroy of Nanking, one of the most important functionaries in the Chinese Empire, and who has been for years intimately acquainted with foreigners.

Under no circumstances whatever would I have allowed the ship under my command to be used as a threat to compel a compliance to the Consul's request, however just, without an official communication from the Minister at Peking, or from my own superior officer.

In this case I did not consider there was any urgency, as communication with Peking was frequent and uninterrupted. Had Mr. Medhurst considered the presence of the "Rinaldo" absolutely necessary, an official communication to that effect would have ensured it, and explained my absence from Shanghai to my Commander-in-chief.

Events have proved that the Viceroy only yielded to the Consul's requests when backed by a considerable naval force, whose first act was to seize a valuable steamer belonging to him.

I have not the slightest doubt that had I made any hostile demonstration whatever with the very small force at my command, his Excellency would have complied with equal readiness, and I should have deservedly lost my commission for making war with China on my own account. A very long experience in China has convinced me that the pendant of the "Rinaldo" might have floated idly over the waters of Nanking for months without

in any way influencing the sluggish and impassive natures of the Chinese officials, whilst the first shell or the first seizure would have brought them at once to my feet.

Had Sir Rutherford Alcock been on board the "Rinaldo," it is probable your Lordships would not have had to call upon me for an explanation.

I leave it to your Lordships' judgment if Her Majesty's ships are to be employed without having sufficient authority to threaten, without the power to strike.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM BUSH.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 27, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Admiralty,* inclosing a copy of a letter from Commander Bush, reporting the circumstances under which he withdrew the "Rinaldo" from Nanking.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 24.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 28, 1869.

WITH reference to your despatches respecting the attack on British missionaries at Yang-chow-foo, and to my despatch to you of the 14th instant on the same subject, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter that I have received from the Board of Admiralty,† by which you will perceive that the circumstances under which Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" was withdrawn by her Commander from the Yang-tze-Kiang, while the discussion between Consul Medhurst and the local authorities was still in progress, will be fully inquired into.

The concluding paragraph of the Admiralty letter calls, however, for more specific notice. The object of it is, the expediency of placing the employment of Her Majesty's vessels in the ports of China for the coercion of local authorities under strict regulation.

You will have seen by my despatches of the 30th December, and of the 13th and 14th of January, that Her Majesty's Government attach the greatest importance to this point; and I have accordingly to instruct you to explain to Her Majesty's Consuls that the special purposes for which Her Majesty's ships of war are stationed in the ports of China, and employed on the coasts, are to protect the floating commerce of British subjects against piratical attacks in Chinese waters, to support Her Majesty's Consuls in maintaining order and discipline among the crews of British vessels in the respective ports, and, in cases of great emergency, to protect the lives and properties of British subjects, if placed in peril by wanton attacks directed against them either on the part of local authorities or by an uncontrolled popular movement.

As regards this last point, Her Majesty's Consuls must constantly bear in mind that the interference of naval force, either on their representation, or on the part of naval officers acting on their own estimation of facts before them, will alone receive the subsequent approval of Her Majesty's Government, when it is clearly shown that without such interference the lives and properties of British subjects would, in all probability, have been sacrificed; and even in such a case Her Majesty's Government will expect to learn that the alternative of receiving them on board ship, and so extricating them from threatened danger, was not available.

Beyond this the circumstances of the case must be of a very peculiar nature which would be held by Her Majesty's Government to justify a recourse to force.

Her Majesty's Government cannot leave with Her Majesty's Consuls or Naval Officers to determine for themselves what redress or reparation for wrong done to British subjects is due, or by what means it should be enforced. They cannot allow them to determine

whether coercion is to be applied by blockade, by reprisals, by landing armed parties, or by acts of even a more hostile character. All such proceedings bear more or less the character of acts of war, and Her Majesty's Government cannot delegate to Her Majesty's servants in foreign countries the power of involving their own country in war.

My despatches to which I have referred will have enabled you to point out in unmistakeable terms to Her Majesty's Consuls the course they are to pursue when an emergency calling for immediate action as the sole means of protecting British life and property has passed away. They must appeal to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking to obtain redress through the action of the Central Government; and he, on his part, if he fails to obtain it, will submit the case for the judgment of Her Majesty's Government, with whom alone it rests to decide as to the course to be thereupon pursued.

I shall furnish the Board of Admiralty with a copy of this despatch, in order that they may send corresponding instructions to the Admiral in the China Seas.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 25.

The Secretary to the London Missionary Society to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6.)

(Extract.)

Mission House, Blomfield Street, February 5, 1869.

THERE are two important matters which the Directors of the London Missionary Society desire to submit to your Lordship's attention, and upon which they would be glad to obtain your judgment at an early period:—First, as recent events in China, and the visit to London of the special Chinese Embassy, have brought afresh to your Lordship's notice the stipulations of the Treaties with China, and among them those clauses which concern the residence and journeyings of missionaries in that Empire,—since also the English communities in China have been pressing on the Government the importance of increasing their privileges when the Treaty shall be revised,—the Directors of the London Missionary Society would be glad to ascertain from your Lordship the views which Her Majesty's Government now hold of the range within which, according to existing Treaties, missionaries in general may freely move. Because, while the opportunities for their usefulness have grown great and numerous, the Directors are anxious that the operations of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society shall be so conducted as in no way to embarrass Her Majesty's Government, or even inadvertently to complicate the relations between the two Empires. That is the only ground on which they would venture to trouble your Lordship in the matter.

No. 26.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary of the London Missionary Society.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 10, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, requesting his opinion in regard to certain matters in China, and New Caledonia, in which the London Missionary Society is interested.

For greater convenience Lord Clarendon desires me to reserve the latter point for a subsequent communication, after obtaining from Lord Lyons a report which he will be called upon to furnish; and to confine my present letter to the questions which you put in regard to missionary privileges in China, and specifically as regards the right of locomotion.

Lord Clarendon is glad to receive from the Society the assurance that the Directors are anxious that the operations of their missionaries should be so conducted as in no way to embarrass Her Majesty's Government, or even inadvertently to complicate the relations between the two Empires. This assurance does honour to the Society, and entitles any representations they may make to the most liberal consideration.

With the exception of the VIIIth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, there is no specific engagement with China which can be cited in a British Treaty as applying to missionary pursuits.

That Article provides that persons teaching or professing the Christian religion shall, whether Protestants or Roman Catholics, be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities; and while peaceably pursuing their calling, and not offending against the law, shall not be persecuted or interfered with.

Any other privileges British missionaries are entitled to enjoy in China are provided for by other Articles of the Treaty applying to British subjects generally.

Lord Clarendon is not prepared to place any abstract construction on those Treaty provisions. So much must always depend on the circumstances under which, and the grounds on which, Treaty privileges are claimed, that specifically to define the practical extent of any such privileges, would be more likely to mislead than serve as a sure guide for action.

Lord Clarendon considers that in all cases of a doubtful nature, where a British missionary desires to receive counsel or directions, his safest course would be to apply to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and be guided by his advice.

This course is more particularly to be recommended at the present time, inasmuch as it is clear that a strong feeling prevails among the authorities and people of China against the establishment of mission-stations in the interior of the country; and it would be highly imprudent in missionaries to persist in disregarding the opposition either of the Chinese authorities or people, and braving their animosity, however unjustifiable or misplaced.

It is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to protect a missionary establishment in places where no Consular authority is at hand to require the local authorities to exert themselves in its defence; and it is no less impossible to suppose that the feelings of Parliament would be enlisted in favour of measures of coercion to avenge a wrong done to missionaries, which, even if they did not end in war, would, for a time, at least, paralyze British trade, and might be open to much question in point of justice as between country and country.

The London Missionary Society can, in Lord Clarendon's opinion, render no better service to their missionaries than by inculcating on them circumspection in regard to their own conduct, and the utmost consideration for the feelings and character of the people among whom they dwell. The missionaries will do well to follow in the wake of trade, when the people have learnt to see in it material advantage to themselves, rather than seek to lead the way in opening up new locations. In the former case they will find people prepared to receive and listen to their instruction; but, in the latter, there is too much reason to believe that their proffered instruction will be rejected, and their persons exposed to indignity and even danger.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.



Correspondence respecting the Attack
on British Protestant Missionaries at
Yang-chow-foo, August 1868.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 10d.*]

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CHINA. No. 3 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

MISSIONARY DISTURBANCES

AT

CHE-FOO,

AND

TAIWAN (FORMOSA).

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting Missionary Disturbances at Che-foo, and Taiwan (Formosa).

No. 1.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 27.)

My Lord,

Peking, May 21, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of two despatches I have received, one from the officer in charge at Taiwan, in Formosa, and the other from Che-foo, both referring to certain popular outbreaks directed against missionaries.

Fortunately there has been no serious injury to life and limb, and some property alone has been destroyed. But I would draw attention to these incidents as showing the precarious tenure on which all residence in the interior is held, and more especially the facility with which superstition and ignorance combined may be brought to bear against the missionaries, of whatever nation or creed. In Formosa it is clear the people were made to believe in the most monstrous stories, such as have prevailed in former times in Europe against the Jews, and later still in Italy against Protestants, of evil practices in poisoning converts or scooping out the eyes or children.

While memorialists are expressing the general desire of the foreign communities to have unlimited access to every part of the Empire, and right of residence in the interior, facts such as these must not be overlooked, as bearing upon the questions both of policy and practicability.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Mr. Jamieson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Taiwan, Takoo Office, April 24, 1868.

I REGRET to have to report a slight disturbance of the public peace which has occurred within this district in connection with the missionaries. The cause of the disturbance was a report which had become current among the Chinese that the missionaries were using some sort of poisonous drug and administering it in secret doses to the people to induce them to become converts, and the result has been that the mob has attacked and burnt or destroyed the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches in Feng-shan-hsien, a district city about six miles from this port. Fortunately no foreigners were stationed there at the time, and the individual upon whom they have pitched as the grand aggressor is one Kao-chang, a native Protestant preacher, who has now been for some time a convert, and is, as far as I can learn, a man of unblameable character.

This man was dragged before the magistrate during the first excitement of the moment by the mob, who demanded his immediate punishment, but the magistrate succeeded in repressing this violence, and simply detained him for further investigation. He is still confined in the yamên.

The first report of the disturbance reached this place about twelve days ago, and I was immediately applied to by the Rev. H. Retchie to go and obtain the release of his imprisoned convert Kao-chang. I refused to do this, as the quarrel was purely a Chinese one, but told him that as the church property had been destroyed I should go and pay the magistrate a visit (a thing I had been purposing for some time previously at any rate), and endeavour to settle the matter quietly. I accordingly wrote a note to the magistrate, stating my intention to go and see him about this matter, but on the following morning,

just as I was starting, a note in reply was put into my hands, begging me to defer my visit for some time as the people were all in a state of great excitement, and implying that he was powerless to assist me in case any violence were attempted.

I had no difficulty in complying with his request, and I found afterwards that it was well this note reached me in time, as a band of several hundred men were then assembled outside the gate, on the road leading to Takow, ready to prevent any attempt at entrance on the part of foreigners. I should also mention that the day previously one of the Roman Catholic missionaries stationed here, the Abbé Chin-chou, hearing of the disturbance, and, like myself, not knowing at the time the true state of affairs, had entered the city and was immediately mobbed. He had to seek refuge in the magistrate's yamên, and remained there two days, when he was finally escorted outside the city in the early morning by a troop of soldiers, the crowd meanwhile lying in wait for him and openly professing their intention of putting him to death.

Since that time I have received several despatches from the high authorities of the island on the subject, and, contrary to expectation, I find they all regard the poisoning matter as an undoubted fact, and request me to investigate whether it was done at the instigation of Dr. Maxwell (who being the oldest missionary here is always quoted as the chief) or whether it was done by Kao-chang on his own responsibility, and to give strict orders that nothing of the kind be attempted for the future.

To these I have endeavoured to reply in the manner I considered best calculated to allay the excitement, namely, that after full investigation I am firmly convinced that this poisoning exists only in imagination; that Dr. Maxwell is a man of the highest respectability, as can be attested by the foreigners in this place, and is utterly incapable of such a thing; that his convert Kao-chang has also borne a very respectable character for several years past since foreigners have known him, and besides that he has never had anything to do with the dispensing of foreign medicines, Dr. Maxwell having always kept that in his own hands; moreover, that Dr. Maxwell himself has for over two months been absent in Hong Kong, and cannot well be implicated in the present disturbance.

I have also added that riots of this kind cannot be permitted to take place with impunity, and request that orders be given to the Feng-shan-hsien magistrate to find out the ringleaders and have them punished; as also that I consider the people ought to be made to pay for the property destroyed.

To the missionaries, both English and French, who have applied to me for assistance, I have replied that their only course is to remain quiet, and avoid the disturbed districts for a time; that the opinions of the people cannot be altered by any mandates of the authorities, and that they must either live down these reports, as has been done in other places, or quit the island for a district where there their labours would be more thankfully received.

Various reports have from time to time reached us of an impending attack on the foreign settlement itself, but, while taking all necessary precaution against a surprise, I cannot but regard such a thing as improbable in the extreme. Latest accounts report the country as tolerably quiet, and I have little doubt but that things will soon settle down into their ordinary channels.

Trusting my action in this matter may be approved, I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. JAMIESON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Che-foo, May 9, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report a small outburst of popular feeling against Christian missions, and the steps I have taken to obtain redress.

Some two months ago the Rev. Mr. Laughton, desiring a chapel in a market town two miles from this, instructed his servant to procure a suitable building.

Although cautioned by his master to avoid misrepresentation, the agent employed appears to have been guilty of a direct falsehood, as he stated to the owners of the property that he wanted the house for a shop.

A house was accordingly leased to him for a year; 5 dollars were paid on account of rent, and a lock was placed on the door.

On Mr. Laughton's going some six weeks ago to fit up the place as a chapel, the owners of the property at once declared, as they would appear to have had certain reason

for doing, that the lease was void, and tendering the return of the 5 dollars, demanded possession of the house.

Hoping to overcome their objections, Mr. Laughton declined either accepting the 5 dollars or giving up the house ; and they at once, instead of appealing either to their own authorities or myself, seized the property, pulled off the roof, and walled up the door.

The matter was now reported to me, and although I should have been perfectly ready to consider their case had they laid it properly before me, I could not allow such violent action to be taken by the villagers against a foreigner without notice.

I therefore sent for the ringleaders, and happily succeeded in convincing them of the impropriety of their course by mingled arguments and threats with reference to the Taoutae ; and on their submission agreed to accept the restoration of the house and its lease to Mr. Laughton for the period originally agreed on as compensation for the affront.

This has now been done, and I have at the same time required Mr. Laughton to publicly dismiss his servant, as evidence that we cannot be parties to underhand dealings, and requested him in future to acquire any buildings he may need for mission purposes through the Consulate.

As the act of the villagers, although outrageous, has been so promptly atoned for, and apparently proceeded from inconsiderate haste rather than reckless disregard for foreign rights, I trust your Excellency will consider that I have exacted sufficient satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. ALABASTER.

No. 2.

Mr. Egerton to the Secretary to the London Missionary Society.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for the information of the London Missionary Society, copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Her Majesty's Minister at Peking,* relative to disturbances directed against Christian missionaries at Che-foo and Taiwan.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 3.

The Secretary to the London Missionary Society to Mr. Egerton.—(Received August 10.)

*London Missionary Society, Blomfield Street Finsbury,
August 7, 1868.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, with inclosures, detailing certain disturbances which have recently occurred in China affecting the interests of Christian missions. The London Missionary Society has at the present time no missionary labouring either in Che-foo or Taiwan ; but I am instructed by the Directors to convey to Lord Stanley and yourself, their best thanks for your obliging information.

2. Dr. Mullens being at present out of town, your communication of the 1st instant, respecting the proposed recommencement of the Mission in New Caledonia, has been forwarded to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT ROBINSON.

No. 4.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 7.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 5, 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir H. Keppel, dated 16th of October, relative to the unsatisfactory state

* No. 1.

of affairs in the Island of Formosa, where outrages have been committed upon British subjects, and no protection afforded by the local authorities.

The inclosures to Sir Henry Keppel's letter it is presumed have been already received at the Foreign Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, October 16, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty,* the copy of a letter addressed to me by Her Majesty's Minister in China requesting the dispatch of a gun-boat to Takow, in Formosa, where British subjects have been maltreated by the authorities and our Treaty rights ignored.

2. In reference to this letter I have further to report that Mr. Gibson, Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Taiwan, having failed to obtain redress for the outrages alluded to, placed the case in the hands of Commander Lord Charles Scott of the "Icarus."

3. The inclosed letter reports the demands made by his Lordship on the Taoutae of Taiwan.

4. On the 5th September the Taoutae notified his compliance with them, except that of granting 6,000 dollars demanded as compensation for camphor seized from Messrs. Ellis and Co.

5. But this seeming compliance was only the beginning of a fresh course of evasion and cunning; not one of the promises made has been fulfilled.

6. More recently the District Magistrate of Pi-toa, evidently acting under the instructions of the Taoutae, accused Dr. Maxwell, a British subject, of murder, and, further, refused to meet Her Majesty's Consul when he offered to bring Dr. Maxwell to Pi-toa to confront his accusers.

7. The Consul, being determined to see the District Magistrate, ascertains that three ambuscades were prepared to attack him on the road.

8. The accompanying copy of a letter from Dr. Maxwell will acquaint their Lordships with the nature of the cunning plot, the result of which has rendered affairs even more serious than before.

9. The Consul, who has had much experience in Formosa, represents to Her Majesty's Minister that any course will be futile except a march on Pi-toa and Taiwan, with a view to the arrest of the Taoutae and District Magistrate, in order that they may be sent to Peking.

10. As Her Majesty's Minister is now in possession of the state of affairs in Formosa, it is not my intention to sanction coercive measures except on his requisition.

11. In the meantime, with a view to strengthening just demands, I have ordered Commander Lord Charles Scott to proceed to Takow in the "Rinaldo," taking the "Slaney" and "Bustard" under his orders.

12. Should Sir Rutherford Alcock approve of the views of Her Majesty's Consul, I shall take care that they are carried into effect by an ample force.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, August 14, 1868.

I HAVE for some time been receiving unsatisfactory accounts from the southern ports of Formosa concerning outrages offered to the Protestant and Catholic missionaries in the Taiwan district, property destroyed, catechists imprisoned, with a total denial of justice or protection by the local authorities.

More recently a British subject, a mercantile resident at Takow, has been stabbed in the street by a soldier in the employment of the Leking tax collectors.

* See "China Papers, No. 2 (1869)," Inclosure 8 in No. 14.

The officer in charge of the Consulate, Mr. Gibson, informs me that the small community at Takow have now for some time been cooped-up in the place itself, it being unsafe to proceed, in any direction, two or three miles from the Settlement.

Under these circumstances, I have written to the Prince of Kung calling upon the Chinese Government to take immediate steps to compel the local authorities to do justice for the past outrages, and afford protection from any repetition of such aggressions.

I think it very desirable, at the same time, that a gun-boat should, if possible, be on the station to support the Consular authority, and continue there for a period, until the Chinese local officials have been made to feel the necessity of doing justice and preventing injury to foreigners.

I do not contemplate the necessity of having recourse to force, or any measures of retortion, to compel attention to just demands; but, doubtless, it will much promote the success of the Consul's representations on the spot if the Chinese officials see that means are at hand for exacting redress, if persistently refused to more peaceable efforts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Commander Lord C. Scott to the Taoutae of Taiwan-foo.

Sir,

Taiwan-foo, August 21, 1868.

I CAME to visit you to-day to give you the following subject to consider and answer upon; you suddenly left the yamên, and so the conversation ceased.

I now request that you will definitely answer the following subjects:—

1. Will you either restore Elles and Co.'s camphor, or pay an equivalent of 6,000 dollars, and try Tan-a-yung for robbery? (Articles XVI and XVIII of the Treaty.)
2. Will you release the son of Ellis and Co.'s compradore at Gawchai? (Article XIII.)
3. Will you try Lin Hai who stabbed Mr. Hardy? (Article XVI.)
4. Will you try Hwang Hsi for murdering the Christian catechist? (Articles VIII and XVII.)
5. Will you try the people who destroyed Dr. Maxwell's dispensary chapel and private houses? (Articles VIII and XVIII.)
6. Will you try the villagers who destroyed the Roman Catholic missions? (Articles VIII and XVIII.)
7. Will you issue a Proclamation that the Christian religion be respected and Missions protected by the Local Magistrates? (Article VIII.)
8. Will you write a letter to Mr. Gibson, saying that foreigners shall not be interfered with in the camphor trade? (Articles IX, XII, XIII, XIV.)
9. Will you acknowledge in a despatch that Mr. Gibson is Her Majesty's Consul at Taiwan-foo, and will you respect his passports? (Articles VII and IX.)

Should the answers to these subjects be unsatisfactory, you (the Taoutae) have the whole responsibility of breaking nine Articles of the Treaty, and will be answerable for the consequences.

I request you will send the answer to this letter on board Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," by 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES T. SCOTT.

No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 15.)

Sir,

Admiralty, January 14, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, extracts of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, dated the 6th December, relating to the state of affairs in Formosa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HENRY BRIGGS.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

December 6, 1868.

AT Banca two merchants,* Messrs. Kerr and Bird, of the firm of Dodd and Co., were attacked by the mob and severely injured.

These gentlemen had proceeded to the town to occupy a house leased by them the previous year; but the native authorities, being most anxious to drive English merchants from the place, in order to resume a monopoly of the camphor trade, rather encourage than deter the mob in their lawless proceedings. Her Majesty's Consul was, therefore, compelled to make demands for ample redress, embracing a pecuniary compensation for the injuries inflicted on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, an acknowledgment of the right to reside at Banca, the establishment of proper protection, the restoration of their house, and the severe punishment of all who were implicated in the attack, as well as a fine to be imposed on the clans to which they belong.

The opportune arrival of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Janus," and the United States' gun-boat "Aroostook," was followed by a full compliance on the part of the authorities with the demands made upon them by Her Majesty's Consul.

At Takow, in Formosa, English and other foreign residents continue to be molested by persons acting under the authority of the Taoutae at Taiwan.

The house of Dr. Maxwell, a medical missionary, has been burnt down, while the numerous demands made for redress by Her Majesty's Consul have been treated with contempt.

I have ordered Captain Ross to proceed to Formosa in the "Pearl" and assume charge of British interests in that island. It is my intention to proceed without delay to the same neighbourhood, when I have arranged that a competent force shall be assembled, with a view to exacting a compliance with our Treaty rights, if called upon to act by Her Majesty's Minister.

At Nanking the stoppage of the salt trade, by establishing a blockade of the Grand Canal, would at once be followed by a full compliance with our demands; but, in Formosa, more active measures appear to be indispensable: the force at my command is, however, ample for the purpose.

No. 6.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 20.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 17, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Commodore Jones, dated the 28th December, with its inclosures in original, detailing the circumstances under which Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping in the Island of Formosa were seized by a force under the command of Lieutenant Gurdon, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine."

My Lords request to be informed whether Lord Clarendon approves of the unusual proceedings described in these papers, and which appear to have been undertaken by Lieutenant Gurdon on the requisition of Mr. Gibson, the Acting British Consul at Takow.

Considering that a force sufficient to have prevented all opposition and consequent bloodshed was at hand (having been dispatched by the Admiral on this service), my Lords cannot but think that the necessity for these acts of so-called "reprisals," accompanied as they were by serious loss of life and property, should be established, or that they should be emphatically condemned.

My Lords observe that Acting Consul Gibson disapproves of some of the proceedings of Lieutenant Gurdon. They will be glad to know Lord Clarendon's opinion of the Lieutenant's demanding the guarantee of 40,000 dollars, the indemnity of 5,000 dollars, and the prize-money of 5,000 dollars; and they would inquire whether the latter sums should be retained or returned to the Chinese authorities. So far as the discipline of the navy is concerned, my Lords view with extreme disapproval these pecuniary demands, and

a reference to my letter of the 24th November last* will show that they have ordered commanding officers of Her Majesty's ships not to receive sums of money from Chinese of any class without the sanction of the Commander-in-chief or Board of Admiralty.

My Lords are anxious that no unnecessary delay should take place in communicating to Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel the judgment of Her Majesty's Government on these proceedings.

Whether they were or were not justifiable, there can be no doubt that the operations at Fort Zelandia and Amping were carried out by Lieutenant Gurdon and the officers and men under his command with great skill and gallantry; but my Lords will postpone any expression of opinion on this point until they are in possession of Lord Clarendon's judgment on the whole matter, and have received despatches from the Commander-in-chief as to the operations themselves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Commodore Jones to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, December 28, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward you copies of despatches, the originals of which are awaiting here the arrival of the Commander-in-chief, that relate to the steps taken to gain redress for a series of insults and outrages which have been committed by the Taoutae, officials, and people of Taiwan-foo (in the Island of Formosa) and its neighbourhood, upon Her Majesty's Consul, Her Majesty's Naval Officers, the merchants, missionaries, &c., and their dependants.

In despatch No. 1 from Lieutenant Thornhaugh Philip Gurdon, commanding Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," dated the 2nd December, 1868, is the account of the most daring and successful night attack by him and the crew of the "Algerine" on the fortified village of Amping and Fort Zelandia, held by about 500 soldiers, and of his repulse of a large force sent to recapture the place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Commodore Jones to Lieutenant Gurdon.

Sir, "Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, December 20, 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 2nd December, with its inclosures, detailing the various operations conducted by you at Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping, and shall have great pleasure in submitting it to the Commander-in-chief whose arrival here is shortly expected.

I beg you to accept my congratulations at your having performed the most brilliant exploit which I have heard of in these seas, an exploit which could only have been accomplished by the great daring and judgment you displayed, which gave such confidence to the small body of men you commanded as to raise their courage and determination to a pitch equal to your own.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Acting Consul Gibson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, Taiwan, Takow Office, December 14, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to state in detail our proceedings, &c., at Takow and Taiwan, from the landing of Tseng Ta-jin, the Amoy Taoutae, High Commissioner Ma, and Governor-General of Fukien, on the 8th ultimo, until the final conclusion of our difficulties. The

* "China Papers, No. 5 (1869)," No. 3.

facts which constitute those proceedings that I am about to narrate, are undoubtedly complicated, and it is desirable to reduce them to something like method, as follows; viz. :—

In the first place, from the landing at Amping of Tseng Ta-jin on the 8th, until our first conference at Takow on the 17th ultimo; in the second place, from the first conference on the 17th, till our second conference at Takow on the 24th ultimo; in the third place, from the Senior Naval Officer's operations at Amping, from the 21st, the day we took military possession of the Fort of Zelandia and the ramparts of the viilage, till the 27th ultimo, the day of my second arrival at Amping; in the fourth place, from my second arrival at Amping on the 27th ultimo, till the third conference at Amping on the 29th ultimo; in the fifth place from the third conference at Amping on the 29th ultimo, till the final adjustment of our complications.

In the first place, from the landing at Amping of Tseng Ta-jin on the 8th till our first conference at Takow on the 17th ultimo.

Lord Scott, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Icarus" informed me before his departure from Amoy, as nearly as I can recollect, some ten weeks ago, that Ma, the Governor-General of Fukien, had appointed Tseng, the Amoy Taoutae, to come over to Formosa and settle our complications. I was also informed that Tseng Ta-jin did not like the mission, alleging, as an excuse, that his mother, an old lady, was sick, and that he must stay at home to attend her.

At length, however, Tseng Ta-jin arrived at Amping, landed on the 8th ultimo, and proceeded to Taiwan, where he remained a week, discussing matters with the local officials. When he had satisfied himself with their information he came down to Pitow, the district city of Tung-shan, where he saw the District Magistrate and held a meeting of the graduates to inquire into the difficulties connected with the Protestant Mission there. On the 16th ultimo he arrived at Takow. He had the day before sent the Prefect of Taiwan to Takow. This gentleman paid me a visit on the 16th, and had just departed to receive Tseng Ta-jin, when Tseng, a few minutes after he landed, sent me his card, requesting an interview at once as he wished to be off to Amoy in a day or two. Thinking this conduct peculiarly strange, I declined to concede an interview only a few minutes after his arrival, in this hurried and precipitate fashion, informing him that our complications were so great, so outstanding, and had gone so far, that, to my certain knowledge, it would take him fully a week to understand my side of the question, but I was willing to appoint next day, the 17th, at 3 o'clock for a conference. On the 17th, at 3 o'clock, we met. I asked him what powers he had received, and he, without answering my question, asserted before Lieutenant Gurdon, Lieutenant Johnson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Manson, the agent of Messrs. Ellis and Co., and the agent of Messrs. Tait and Co., that he had discovered that the Formosa difficulties were of no importance; that in a day or two he should start back to Amoy; and when I informed him that it was impossible to mend matters, unimportant as he considered them to be, without suspending Taoutae Liang's commission, he laughed off the whole affair. He even seemed delicately to insinuate that it was contrary to my duty to indulge in urging on those old complaints, asserting that they were trifling and of no moment. I asked him if my charges, with which he was already acquainted, against Liang Taoutae were of no importance. He rejoined that I had not alleged any proof as evidence of the charges I had laid down. Again and again he reiterated, down to the conclusion of the conference, that he was about to start back for Amoy in a day or two. I then inquired if he had power to suspend Liang Taoutae and his two subordinates, and he absolutely said that he had got no such power, and affirmed that our difficulties were of no weight or importance at all.

I derived the following important lessons from this conference :—

1. That Tseng Ta-jin considered our difficulties of the most trifling moment.
2. That Tseng Ta-jin wished to turn his back on Formosa and all its concerns.
3. That he absolutely concealed from me his powers, which from private information

I knew he possessed, in the hope of bluffing me off.

In the second place, from the first conference on the 17th, till our second conference at Takow on the 24th ultimo.

The day after our very unsatisfactory conference of the 17th, I paid Tseng Ta-jin a visit; and although we discussed in a general manner our embarrassments, I consider that I made extremely little impression upon his prejudiced mind as to the urgency and importance of our difficulties; while I saw that if Tseng Ta-jin started back to Amoy in "a day or two"—an expression he was very fond of repeating—our negotiations would come to an end immediately, and the crying wrongs which have been showered upon Europeans by the local Government of Formosa increased tenfold. If Commissioner

Tseng withdrew from the island in a state of dudgeon, I could only apply material force to the local officials ; and I at once foresaw when that material force had been successfully applied, I should still be in this predicament, either, first, of raising a native rebellion in the island ; or, second, of having nobody with whom to settle our embarrassments ; but perhaps both.

I returned to the Consulate, and prepared a despatch for transmission to Tseng Ta-jin, which I beg to inclose.

The gravity of the circumstances, the risk of failure, and the responsibility attaching to future proceedings, naturally abridged by your Excellency's despatch of the 9th of October ; and I came to the conclusion that I was bound to insist upon the necessary steps being taken to the full enjoyment of our Treaty rights. I determined to take military possession of the Fort of Zelandia, and the ramparts of the village of Amping, not only as a material guarantee in the shape of a reprisal, but a basis for action, Amping being the key to the capital of Taiwan. I applied to Lieutenant Gordon, Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer, who approved of my plan of proceedings. I wrote him a despatch on the 20th, which I beg to inclose.

We were off the Fort of Zelandia on the 21st ultimo. We landed about 3 o'clock P.M. on the same day, and we reconnoitred the fort and the ramparts of the village. We found the doors on the magazines on the fort locked ; and from information which I received, the soldiers and their commandant had all removed. The reconnoitring party took military possession of the fort and the ramparts of the village without opposition. I requested, verbally, Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer not to interfere with the civil government of the village, to allow the native merchants to trade as usual, and to protect the foreign Custom-house ; all which, as I afterwards ascertained, he had performed. I posted Proclamations over the village of Amping, enjoining the people not to leave home, but to proceed with their different occupations as hitherto ; and I transmitted another set of Proclamations to Taiwan-foo, announcing to the inhabitants that if they molested Her Majesty's Consulate, or the foreign houses, the city should be bombarded.

The Senior Naval Officer informed me that he considered it more prudent to hold the fort and the ramparts of the village from the ship, and to this I instantly assented.

I returned to Takow in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," on the 22nd, late in the evening.

On the 23rd I informed Tseng Ta-jin, in a despatch, of our proceedings at Amping, inclosing him the Proclamations I had published. He immediately claimed an interview. I appointed next day, the 24th, at 11 o'clock A.M. From reliable information I had received, I knew that Tseng Ta-jin would assent to every proposition I should lay down.

Lieutenant-Commander Johnson of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Manson, the agent of Messrs. Ellis and Co., and the agent of Messrs. Tait and Co., were present at the conference.

After a great deal of argument, which lasted from 11 till 3 o'clock, Tseng Ta-jin assented to my conditions. These conditions are in the Inclosure No. 1 of this despatch. Tseng Ta-jin agreed to everything in these conditions, except Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s compradore's case. He said, the local officials ought to have asked my permission before they tried to arrest him, or broke into his house ; that he was very sorry that such an event had occurred ; that in his opinion the compradore was amenable to the laws of China ; but that when I came to Taiwan he and I should settle the matter equitably. To this I assented.

It was further agreed between Tseng Ta-jin, the Prefect, and myself, before the five gentlemen who attended the conference, that the British forces were to hold Fort Zelandia and the ramparts of the village of Amping in their military possession, till my conditions were fulfilled, and Liang Taoutae and his subordinates removed.

Next morning, the 25th, about 9 o'clock, I sent Lieutenant-Commander Gurdon, Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer, holding the fort and ramparts of the village of Amping, a note—I being afraid that a despatch would be intercepted by the officials at Taiwan—informing him of the agreement that I had come to with Tseng Ta-jin, and requesting him to continue to hold the fort and the ramparts of the village until my conditions were satisfactorily fulfilled, and till Liang Taoutae and his two subordinates were removed, as, judging from Tseng's complying with my conditions so readily, it was the reprisal, and nothing but the reprisal, that led him to make the promise he did.

The Prefect, who accompanied Tseng Ta-jin to Takow, left for Taiwan on the 25th about 5 o'clock A.M. ; so ended the proceedings of our second conference.

In the third place, the Senior Naval Officer's operations at Amping from the 21st, the day we took military possession of the Fort of Zelandia and the ramparts of the village, till the 27th ultimo, the day of my second arrival at Amping.

Under this division I beg to submit to your Excellency the Senior Naval Officer's letter of proceedings, and my reply to that letter.

The Senior Naval Officer's operations took place on the 25th and morning of the 26th. What was the cause of his operations? It was either that Tseng Ta-jin was afraid of "losing face" with the Taiwan officials, by informing them of his agreement to the condition that the British forces were to hold military possession of the fort and ramparts of Amping, or that having informed the Taiwan officials—which I understand is the case—they paid no attention to our agreement.

I informed Tseng Ta-jin on the 24th about 3 o'clock that he ought to write to the Taiwan officials as to our agreement. He answered me twice with a distinct affirmative assurance that he would do so. Moreover, I had got reliable information about 12 o'clock on the 23rd, the day Tseng Ta-jin received my despatch detailing to him that we held the fort and the rampart of the village of Amping in our military possession as a reprisal, that he would agree to-morrow to all my conditions. From his assent to my proposition on the 27th, coupled with private information, which I found to be correct, that I received on the 23rd, I necessarily inferred that a despatch had been written. Further still, on the 25th, about 9 o'clock, a courier started with my note to the Senior Naval Officer, and at 7 o'clock P.M. of the same day the Senior Naval Officer, being then six or seven miles further off than Taiwan, received my letter, although it was delayed three hours; so that the Chinese authorities cannot plead insufficient time to gain a knowledge of the agreement made with Tseng Ta-jin even on the 24th. The Prefect who accompanied Tseng Ta-jin to Takow went very early on the morning of the 25th up to Taiwan, and he was there in abundance of time to stop the Chentai's (General's) soldiers from advancing on Amping.

The Chentai (the General of Division) at Taiwan, and the Chentai alone, is responsible for this infringement of our agreement; for advancing with his forces upon Amping; and for maliciously persecuting and defaming Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner of the Governor-General of Fukien. The Chentai Lin has been removed, and an officer named Tang has been appointed, who received the Chentai's seals on the 8th instant.

During the shelling of the water batteries, on which the native soldiers were busy mounting guns, not a private house in the village was injured, not a private person either killed or wounded; and the same may be said when the village was stormed early on the morning of the 26th. No private house was entered, nobody outraged by the sailors or marines; and this fact not only proves how well Lieutenant Gurdon and his officers kept their men in hand, but is also evidence that the men were imbued with a manly, honest, English character. For the gallant, dauntless, and unprecedented success in storming the Fort of Zelandia and the ramparts of Amping in the face of overwhelming numbers, I think I can claim for Lieutenant Gurdon, his officers, and men, your Excellency's well merited approbation. It was a brave action, and I have no hesitation in affirming that if Lieutenant Gurdon had been unsuccessful, my conditions would have been thrown with disdain in my face, and instead of twenty-one native soldiers killed, and about the same number wounded, it might have been hundreds, not on one side only, before my position at Taiwan could have been secured.

The local officials brought the unfortunate catastrophe of the 25th and 26th upon their own heads, and they have paid a dear price for their project; as Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner, has removed the Chentai, suspended Liang Taoutae, the Prefect, and seven other officials, civil and military. This overturn of officials I look upon in the light of a special providence sent to Formosa. If their successors are just men, even taking a Chinese view of justice, the island will rapidly prosper; but if not a chronic state of rebellion will be set alight in every clan, village, and family; and this special Providence shall have come in vain.

There is another subject to which I would invite your Excellency's attention as it gives me great discomfort. Before I had arrived the second time at Amping Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer had accepted an agreement from the native merchants 40,000 dollars. That agreement was as follows:—that this sum was to be held by the Senior Naval Officer as a guarantee that my conditions should be fulfilled by the local authorities, and Liang and his subordinates should be removed by the Governor-General of Fukien, and that the British forces should not advance upon Taiwan, if they did, this money to be previously returned to the merchants.

This agreement was a mistake, in as much as (1) it led the Chinese to believe we came in quest of money, not of justice; (2) as a matter of fact it belonged to the native merchants, and the property of the merchants can make no impression upon the feelings of the officials in China; (3) it would have been a very great hindrance if the British forces

had been obliged to advance on Taiwan; and (4), it was not in my request of the 20th ultimo. The Senior Naval Officer, however, on my representation, gave the 40,000 dollars back to the native merchants, as also 200 dollars which he had accepted under an agreement from the captain of a man-of-war junk. Lieutenant-Commander Gurdon accepted both these sums of money under a *bonâ fide* agreement; but however our agreement may sound to English ears, to the Chinese it is viewed as a bribe—as a squeeze—which neither Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer nor I have the least desire to recognize.

In the fourth place, from my second arrival at Amping on the 27th till the third conference at Amping on the 29th ultimo.

On the 26th I received a note from Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer informing me that he had been obliged to storm Amping, which I communicated to Tseng Ta-jin, inviting him to go up to Amping with me in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard." This invitation he declined to accept, and it was only through the influence of Mr. Mann, Commissioner of Customs, who had arrived three or four days before, who very kindly went at my request for the purpose of inducing Tseng Ta-jin to come up overland to Taiwan in order to put a stop to further slaughter.

On landing at Amping on the 27th I went over the village. About a third of the usual number of inhabitants were present, on the 28th about one-half, and on the 29th nearly the whole. The market was well supplied. The magazines had been blown up on the fort, and the two military yamêns, in which there were great quantities of guns, small arms, powder, &c., lying about, were occupied by our men destroying those stores. The furniture of both yamêns had been removed on the 24th by the proprietors.

On the 29th, at about 11 o'clock, Tseng Ta-jin, the senior naval officer, and I met at head-quarters. I asked Tseng Ta-jin if he still adhered to my conditions, and especially the proposition that the British forces were to hold military possession of the fort and ramparts of the village of Amping until all my conditions were fulfilled, and Liang Taoutae and his two subordinates removed? He replied, "I adhere." He, however, requested that the senior naval officer should re-embark his men, which I promised him should be done at once, but on these conditions:—1. That he write me a despatch as Commissioner of the Governor-General of Fukien that Liang Taoutae and his two subordinates be removed immediately: 2. That he shall guarantee no Chinese military or naval force should occupy the village of Amping until all my conditions were fulfilled, and Liang Taoutae and his two subordinate officers removed; 3. That he should consent to see Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" anchored off the Custom-house pier, so as to lay the fort and ramparts of the village of Amping within 400 or 500 yards from her guns.

These conditions having been all agreed to by Tseng Ta-jin, I then asked Her Majesty's senior naval officer if he had any demand to make. He demanded 10,000 dollars; 5,000 dollars for the British Government on account of coals, ammunition, &c., expended, and 5,000 dollars as a ransom for a store of guns that he captured in the fort.

The Chinese Local Government ought to pay for the coals, ammunition, &c., that have been expended, but I maintain that stores, guns, &c., captured, we were not at liberty to seize; we were not at war with China, not even with the local Government of Fukien. I disapproved of the demand, and would have nothing to do with the money, leaving it to your Excellency's and the Admiral's better judgment. The powder in the magazines and in the yamêns was very properly blown up, the muskets, gingalls—all loaded,—and the small arms were destroyed. There was no rice in the granaries. The guns were all iron ones, but British guns marked "B. & Co.," and I don't believe if we were at war with China would have sold for any very large sum.

In the fifth place, from the third conference at Amping on the 29th ultimo till the final adjustment of our complications.

On the 2nd instant I arrived in Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" remaining in military possession of the fort of Zelandia and of the ramparts of the village until my conditions are fulfilled, and Liang Taoutae and his two subordinates removed.

The indemnity came down to Takow on the 4th instant, *i. e.*, 6,000 dollars for Messrs. Ellis and Co., 1,167 dollars for the Protestant Mission, and 2,000 dollars for the Catholic fathers. I inclose the copies of these receipts.

From the officials that brought the money down I learnt that Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner, had suspended the commissions of Liang Taoutae, Yeh, the Prefect, Ling, the District Magistrate of Tung-shan-Kuo, the Ling of Lo-chiang and seven other officials, who had been mixed up with foreign difficulties.

On the 6th instant Tseng Ta-jin sent down two Proclamations, which were in accord-

ance with the conditions. The Camphor Proclamation abolished the monopoly, gave foreign merchants permission to buy camphor not only at the coast ports, but in the interior; allowed compradores and other Chinese agents of foreign merchants to buy, and natives freely to sell, camphor; and brought the traffic in this article under the Tien-tsin Treaty and Custom-house regulations. I inclose the Camphor Proclamation. The second proclamation which the Commissioner sent down had reference to Christianity. It permits the greatest latitude to the missionaries, Protestant and Catholic. They can heal, preach, teach, and build mission-houses. They can travel anywhere under a passport. The falsehoods which the yaméns promulgated, such as poisoning water and giving noxious drugs to women, against the missionaries are all rebutted; in fact, the Commissioner says that these gross and malevolent reports are untrue. Native converts shall not be persecuted. I inclose this Proclamation.

In the second Proclamation, Mixed Courts in this island are instituted. The benefit of Mixed Courts in Formosa will be inexpressibly great. Any dispute between British subjects, their agents, and domestic servants, with the natives will be tried by a Mixed Court. For two or three years past justice and right have been made a laughing-stock of by the local officials, bribes and squeezes have been in their opinion all in all.

On the 11th instant Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," Lord Charles Scott, Commander, arrived, having Mr. Consul Swinhoe on board. Mr. Consul Swinhoe, after reading the various despatches, and taking the opinion of Lord Charles Scott and Major Crossman on the subject, declined to accept his post, and he ordered me to carry out the proceedings, which he entirely approved of, that I had commenced. For this favour I am exceedingly obliged to Mr. Consul Swinhoe.

The naval forces now are Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo," Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine" and Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard;" the latter has military possession of Fort Zelandia and the ramparts of the village of Amping. Her Majesty's ships "Perseus" and "Pearl" may arrive at any moment.

The rascals who pulled down Dr. Maxwell's dispensary, mission-house, and private houses in the town of Pitow are arrested. The murderers of the catechist have been apprehended. Dr. Maxwell's accusers are in gaol. Tin-hai, the person who stabbed Mr. Hardie, the agent for Messrs. Tait and Co., in Taiwan, has been in prison for five months; and in a few days Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner, is coming to Pitow to have them all separately punished; while Tan-a-yung, the man who illegally removed the camphor at Wuchai, under Liang Taoutae's orders, will be punished at Taiwan.

I intend to hold military possession of Fort Zelandia and the ramparts of the village of Amping (and Mr. Consul Swinhoe and Lord Charles Scott, the senior naval officer at Takow, are of that opinion), until all the individuals I have enumerated are most severely punished, and until Liang Taoutae, Ting, the District Magistrate of Tung-shan, and the Ting of Lo-chiang, who are just now suspended, are removed.

In conclusion, I humbly but sincerely beg your Excellency to bestow a high measure of your approbation upon Lieutenant Commander Gurdon, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine;" without him I could have done nothing. If he had failed in his great risk, the Chinese officials, and Tseng Ta-jin himself, would have snapped their fingers at my conditions; but, as soon as he got my letter, he saw what an immense responsibility was upon his shoulders, and he did not falter; the boats were called away; he stormed the fort and the ramparts of the village of Amping, had a severe struggle to prevent the recapture of the place, and conducted himself throughout with resolution and determined gallantry. For his negotiations I can only say they were arranged by an officer who took a higher view of the Chinese national character than I do; he laid down a contract in a legal sense, and an Englishman contracting with another Englishman knows very well what a contract means. Lieutenant Gurdon was, as a fact, contracting with Chinese. This was his only misfortune. But nevertheless his negotiations were one thing, his gallantry decidedly another; and I beg your Excellency to give him your entire approbation.

Lieutenant-Commander Johnson, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," has remained here for four months. In all Lieutenant Johnson's intercourse with me he has shown himself to be a brave and obliging officer. I beg from your Excellency the bestowal of your approbation upon him.

Mr. Mann, the Commissioner of Customs, at my request, visited Tseng Ta-jin at Takow twice or thrice; he afterwards, on my persuasion, accompanied Tseng to Taiwan, and at both places gave Tseng Ta-jin good advice. As I informed him, it was for the best interests of the Central Government that I laid down those conditions, and that the Senior Naval Officer stormed the fort; and that advice and much other beneficial advice was given to Tseng by one of the foreign officials of the Central Government itself.

I beg of your Excellency to approve of Mr. Mann's merits to the Inspector-General of Maritime Customs at Peking.

I will write your Excellency whenever the criminals are punished.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 6.

Acting Consul Gibson to Lieutenant Gurdon.

Sir,

Takow Office, November 20, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to state that I consider it necessary, for the bare existence and interests of British subjects in Taiwan, that Her Majesty's ships under your command should make reprisals; and I request you to seize and to hold Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping till the local Government of Fukien will settle the just and important conditions with which you are already acquainted, which for nearly five months I have been urging on them to perform.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

P.S.—I request you will not permit any naval or military force to enter at Amping.

J. G.

Inclosure 5 in No. 6.

Lieutenant Gurdon to Commodore Jones.

Sir,

"Algerine," Takow, Formosa, December 2, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I took command of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," from Commander Domville, on November 1st, at Swatow, and proceeded to Takow, Formosa, in execution of my sailing orders the next day, viz., the 2nd ultimo.

I found the weather so bad outside that I had to run into Hope Bay for shelter for that day, but the weather moderating during the night I put to sea next morning, and after a very bad passage across, it blowing very hard from the north-eastward and east-north-eastward, and a very heavy sea running, I arrived at Takow at daylight of the 5th ultimo. I found Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" lying here, which vessel I have taken under my orders. I regret to state that I found, on arrival at Takow, that 450 lbs. of biscuit, stowed on the lower-deck and in the fore-hold, had deteriorated to such an extent from sea-water as to be unfit for service.

I beg to inclose the report of survey concerning the same, also the receipt for warrant officers' and engineers' stores of Her Majesty's ship "Bustard," conveyed to her by this ship.

On arrival here, Dr. MacCarthy, Assistant Surgeon in charge, addressed to me a communication recommending that certain cases should be sent on shore to sick quarters, which recommendation I approved of and have acted on.

The Taoutae of Amoy arrived at Takow by land from Taiwan-foo on the 16th ultimo, he having been sent by the Viceroy of Fukien (in whose province this island is situated) to settle the existing difficulties between the Acting Taoutae of Taiwan and Mr. Gibson, the British Consul at Takow. The Taoutae requested, and Mr. Gibson granted him, an audience on the afternoon of the 17th instant, at which ceremony Mr. Gibson requested Lieutenant Johnson, of Her Majesty's ship "Bustard," and myself to attend.

On discussing the powers that had been granted to him by the Viceroy of Fukien, it was ascertained that he had not power granted him to dismiss the Acting Taoutae of Taiwan and the other officials implicated in the late disturbances, which demand of Mr. Gibson has been approved of by Sir Rutherford Alcock; consequently no diplomatic relations could be entered into with the Taoutae of Amoy, but Mr. Gibson has furnished him with all his correspondence.

On November the 20th, finding that the Taoutae of Amoy had not the power to accede to his demands, Mr. Gibson addressed to me a letter, of which I inclose a copy. The British Consul having come on board the same evening I weighed, in company with Her Majesty's ship "Bustard," and arrived off Amping early the next morning. During

the day I landed the Marines and the boats' crews of the two vessels, leaving them at the pier. I proceeded with Mr. Gibson and Lieutenant Johnson to reconnoitre the place, but found Fort Zelandia in such an utter state of ruin that it would not have been prudent, with the limited force at my disposal, to occupy it permanently: the buildings of the village affording also wretched accommodation for the men I informed Mr. Gibson of the same, and told him that I thought a Proclamation to the effect that we held the village of Amping and Fort Zelandia (the same being within reach of my pivot gun), obliging the Military Mandarin in charge of Amping to quit the place, and allowing no naval or military force to enter it, would answer the same end, which course accordingly was decided upon, the forces being re-embarked.

Mr. Gibson returned to Takow on the 22nd ultimo in Her Majesty's ship "Bustard," I remaining at this place to carry out the measures decided upon.

Mr. Gibson wishing a man-of-war lorch a that was laying inside of the bar to move outside, I accordingly boarded her and informed her that she must move outside the bar before 6 o'clock that night, or I should have to take possession of her.

I then proceeded on shore and visited the Heptai, informing him that we had taken possession of Amping, and that consequently he must leave the town within the space of twenty-four hours.

The Heptai at first declined to listen to any arrangement of the sort; but on my informing him that if he did not evacuate the town within the time named by me I should have to take him prisoner, he said that he would go to Taiwan-foo for orders, and let me know the result next morning.

The same evening a furious gale set in from the northward, preventing any communication with the shore until Tuesday forenoon.

On Tuesday, at 11 A.M., I proceeded inside the bar, and informed the man-of-war lorch a that unless she was outside the bar by 3 P.M. I should take her as a prize. The lorch a not having moved at the time named I sent my boats in manned and armed, took possession of her, and moved her outside the bar, anchoring her close to me, sending all her crew on shore, retaining only the captain and two men on board, placing a guard in charge of her at the same time.

During the afternoon a deputation of merchants from Taiwan-foo came on board to request me to allow the Heptai to remain in Amping, but I informed them that, unless they would deposit a sum of 35,000 dollars with me as a guarantee that all Mr. Gibson's conditions with Tsung Taoutae were carried out, my orders would not allow of it; they then left, saying that they would inform me next morning if they would deposit with me the sum required.

The next day at noon I received trustworthy intelligence that 500 men had been poured into Amping that morning, and that the Chinese officials were busy at work mounting guns on the fortifications. I immediately sent a despatch to the Heptai, stating that, unless he sent the troops out of the town and ceased mounting guns on the fortifications within an hour of the receipt by him of my despatch, I should be compelled to open fire on the town, at the same time sending notice to the inhabitants to abandon the town, as I intended to open fire at 3 P.M.

No answer having come at 4 o'clock I weighed, and commenced a slow fire from my pivot gun with shot and shell at 2,000 yards, confining my fire as much as possible to the batteries that were being armed.

At 5:20 P.M. I ceased firing and anchored. At about 7 P.M. I received a despatch from Mr. Gibson at Takow, informing me that he had arrived at an agreement with Tsung Taoutae solely on account of my holding Amping, and that the British forces were to continue to occupy Amping until the agreement was ratified by the Vice-Regal Government of Fukien.

I immediately saw of what consequence it was that I should be in actual possession of Amping, and the disastrous effect it would have on the negotiations pending if the Chinese put Amping in such a state of defence as might defy the small force at my disposal.

I accordingly came to the conclusion to storm the town of Amping the same night.

At 10:30 P.M. I left the ship in the gig and cutter, the gig containing one officer and eleven men, the cutter one officer and thirteen men, making a total of two officers and twenty-three men.

I landed on the beach about two miles below the town through a heavy surf, in which, notwithstanding every precaution, the gig was swamped and sunk.

After forming on the beach I advanced on the town, feeling my way with great caution, throwing out skirmishers and taking advantage of every inequality of the ground to conceal my advance; when I got within 800 yards of the fortifications, seeing that the

enemy was on the alert, I took advantage of a steep bank, making the men lie down behind it, and determined to wait until the moon had gone down.

At 2.40 A.M., the moon having gone down, I advanced again, and succeeded in penetrating into the heart of the town without being discovered.

I then managed to obtain a guide, and made for the Heptai's yamên.

On breaking into the Heptai's yamên we discovered a guard-room full of soldiers, in number about fifty, who immediately barricaded the door, and extinguished the lights; however, port-fires being at hand, they were immediately lighted, the door was burst in, when, notwithstanding all my personal endeavours and those of an interpreter I had with me, who assured them their lives would be spared, and they themselves allowed to go free if they laid down their arms, they would not, and reluctantly, in self-defence, I was obliged to give the order to fire.

The Chinese soldiers succeeded in breaking down a door in their rear, and escaped; suffering, however, a serious loss of eleven killed and about six wounded.

I then marched to the Custom-house, halting there till daylight before I advanced further, posting sentries on Fort Zelandia commanding the town, and also in the neighbouring streets. I managed to write a despatch here, informing the British Consul at Takow of what had taken place, and requested him to proceed to Amping in Her Majesty's ship "Bustard," which I ordered up to reinforce me immediately.

This despatch I succeeded in getting conveyed to the Consul by offering a heavy bribe to a native courier.

Directly it was daylight I concentrated my men, and advanced to take possession of the lines facing towards Taiwan-foo. I had only just reached the lines when I observed a large body of the enemy advancing to the attack, led on by a Mandarin carrying a yellow flag.

I immediately lined the embankment, and opened a heavy fire on the enemy, who stood and returned the fire for about five minutes, when they broke and fled towards Taiwan-foo, sustaining a loss, as I have since ascertained, of six killed and about ten wounded.

I posted sentries and established guards round the entrenchments, barricading the gate leading to Taiwan-foo, and withdrawing the planks of it.

During the afternoon a deputation of the chief merchants of Taiwan-foo arrived, informing me that they had been sent by Liang Taoutae of Taiwan, and requesting to know what my terms were, as they were empowered by Liang to grant any demand I preferred.

I informed them that I required a sum of 40,000 dollars to be paid over to me before noon the next day, as a guarantee that all Mr. Gibson's demands were fulfilled, the sum in question not to be returned until his agreement was ratified by the Vice-Regal Government of Fukien.

In case this demand of mine was not complied with, I informed the deputation that I should advance on Taiwan-foo.

During the night I was informed that my demand of a guarantee of 40,000 dollars would be complied with, they being guaranteed to arrive at my head-quarters not later than 4 P.M. that day, viz., the 27th instant. At daybreak on Friday morning Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" arrived, with Mr. Gibson the Consul on board, and about 10 A.M. Lieutenant Johnson and thirteen men from her landed to reinforce me.

During the day I employed the force in destroying all stores of arms that I could discover, blowing up the magazine in Fort Zelandia to prevent any accident happening from the large quantity of powder stored there, and which was stowed in a very dangerous and careless manner.

The 40,000 dollars arrived at head-quarters from Taiwan-foo about 4 o'clock, and were sent off to Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine" for safe custody, I giving a receipt and guarantee to the persons bringing it that it would be restored on the fulfilment of Mr. Gibson's demands by the Vice-Regal Government of Fukien. On Sunday, the 29th instant, at about 11 A.M., Tsung, Taoutae of Amoy, arrived for a conference, and was received with all due honours.

The Consul requested me as senior naval officer to make any demands that I required from the Chinese authorities, when I requested from them, before Her Majesty's forces under my command re-embarked, the payment of the sum of 10,000 dollars, to be applied as follows: the sum of 5,000 dollars for repayment to the British Government of any expense incurred by them in the present expedition; also a further sum of 5,000 dollars, to be paid to me for a ransom for all guns and other Government stores remaining in the town of Amping, the sum in question to be distributed as prize-money to the officers and men under my command. This demand was complied with, when I on my part agreed to return the sum of 40,000 dollars deposited as a guarantee with me, to restore the man-of-

war lorchas, taken by Her Majesty's ship under my command, and to embark the forces under my command, at that time in possession of Amping; these promises being conditional on Tsung Taoutae's fulfilling the following requests:—

That he should send Mr. Gibson a despatch guaranteeing the dismissal of Liang Taoutae and other officials implicated in the late disturbances in Formosa;

That Tseng Taoutae should guarantee that no Chinese military force should attempt to occupy Amping until the ratification by the Vice-regal Government of Fukien of the British Consul's requests; the town of Amping in the meantime being held by us from a gun-boat;

That all indemnity money demanded from Mr. Gibson should be paid immediately, and delinquents concerned in the late outrages brought to trial and punished forthwith.

These requests were all complied with; the Taoutae of Amoy returning to Taiwan-foo about 2 P.M.

On Tuesday the 1st of December the Tsien of Taiwan-foo arrived with the sum of 10,000 dollars, the indemnity required by me before the embarkation of Her Majesty's forces under my command, for which I gave him a receipt, and handed over to him in return the 40,000 dollars in my possession as a guarantee for the fulfilment of the Consul's demands. The man-of-war lorchas had been restored to the Chinese officials on the previous day.

An arrangement was also made with the Tsien to receive over civil possession of the town from me at 10 o'clock the following morning, Her Majesty's forces under my command embarking immediately after the ceremony.

At noon on Wednesday, the 2nd instant, the Tsien of Taiwan-foo arrived, and was received with all due honours at the main guard, where I handed over officially to him the Civil Government of Amping; Her Majesty's forces then marched down to their boats, and embarked without delay, after having held Amping since Thursday the 26th of November.

I have the honour to state for your information that when captured by me the town of Amping had mounted on its fortifications forty-one guns, and there were in store ready for mounting no less than 101. The above-mentioned guns varied in size, but the greater number consisted of 18- and 12-pounders.

I also destroyed whilst in possession of Amping about 4,000 stand of arms, consisting of gingalls, matchlocks, bows and arrows, swords and spears. I weighed at 2 P.M., with the Consul on board, and proceeded to Takow, leaving the "Bustard" at Amping inside the Bar to see that no breach of the negotiations were attempted by the Chinese authorities.

I must beg leave to bring to your notice, for the information of the Commander-in-chief, the admirable conduct of the men, not one single complaint having been made by the inhabitants of a case of plunder.

On the Surgeon's recommendation I issued extra rations of coffee and spirits during the night whilst landing.

I beg that you will be pleased to bring to the notice of the Commander-in-chief the case of Mr. Walker, boatswain, third class, who has been six years in that rank. Mr. Walker proved invaluable to me whilst on shore, and his certificates are all remarkably good.

I hope that you will be pleased to approve of all my proceedings which have brought to an end all the claims that have been now pending for the last nine months.

Being very short of coal I have written to Messrs. Tait and Co., Amoy, the Naval Contractor, for coal, to send me, per next trip of the "Eliza Mary," thirty-five tons of Welsh coal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THORNHAUGH P. GURDON.

P.S.—I omitted to state in the due course of my letter that on December 1, I returned to the Tsien Taiwan-foo the sum of 200 dollars, the same having been paid by agreement by the Captain of the lorchas, for smashing my boats when towing her out, as I considered the sum of 5,000 dollars paid for expenses incurred by the British Government would cover all expenses.

I beg to inclose the British Consul's original acknowledgment of my letter of proceedings to him.

T. P. G.

Inclosure 6 in No. 6.

Acting Consul Gibson to the Senior Naval Officer, Taiwan.

Sir, *Taiwan, Takao Office, December 3, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch of the 2nd instant, informing me of your distinguished success in capturing Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping, which the local Government put into a state of defence, notwithstanding that Tseng Ta-jin and myself agreed upon Tuesday the 24th ultimo should remain in our military possession until all my conditions had been fulfilled, and Liang Taoutae and his subordinates removed. For your gallant and noble action, as well as in your subsequent affair, I offer you my cordial congratulations. In taking upon yourself the risk and the responsibility of this unprecedented and decided success, I consider that the bravery of your spirit was only subordinate to the firm determination of your will in performing the deed.

The Chinese local officials brought this misfortune upon themselves, as Tseng Ta-jin in our conference at Amping admitted. If not decidedly uncalled for, I beg to thank your officers and men for behaving so gallantly.

There are, however, three adverse remarks which I would make. In the first place, respecting the 40,000 dollars. In all negotiations whether entered into by a naval, military, or civil officer, one must contemplate facts. The 40,000 dollars belonged, as a fact, to the native merchants, and your judgment will clearly perceive that this sum could be no guarantee to me that my conditions should be carried out by the local authorities even under the agreement which you lay down. In China the relative ranks of the merchants and the local officials are so diverse that the property of the former can make no impression upon the latter. In the second place, regarding the 200 dollars which you mention in your despatch, I am fully persuaded that in restoring this money you did well. In the third place, respecting the 10,000 dollars: although this sum had nearly brought the negotiations to a dead lock, I have no objection to find with this, provided the Admiral approves of the justice of your proceeding.

I have replied to your despatch in an honest and straightforward manner, as I am sure you desire me to do; but no adverse remark of mine can diminish that distinguished and dauntless action of yours in capturing Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping by your gallant crew.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 6.

Commodore Jones to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir, *"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, December 21, 1868.*

IN submitting this letter from Lieutenant Thornhaugh Philip Gurdon, then Senior Officer at Takao, I cannot withhold the expression of my admiration at the brilliant exploit he records, and at the wise manner he, in conjunction with Mr. Consul Gibson, have brought all the matters in question between them and the Chinese authorities in Taiwan-foo to so satisfactory a conclusion.

I would also bring to your favourable notice his recommendation of Mr. James Walker, boatswain, third class.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

No. 7.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 22.)

Sir, *Admiralty, February 22, 1869.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 17th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, dated the 6th of January, with its inclosures in original, relating to the proceedings of Lieutenant Gurdon, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," in capturing Fort Zelandia and the fortifications of the village of Amping in Formosa, and stating that he has requested

Mr. Gibson, Acting Consul at Takow, to restore to the local authorities the sum of 10,000 dollars, demanded by Lieutenant Gurdon; half to cover the cost of coal and ammunition expended; the other half as a ransom for guns captured in the fort.

My Lords request that the inclosures to Sir H. Keppel's letter, as well as those forwarded in my letter of the 17th instant, may be returned when done with.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, January 6, 1869.

WITH reference to Commodore Jones' letter to you of the 28th December, 1868, giving cover to Lieutenant T. P. Gurdon's report of the capture, by the crew of the "Algerine," under his command, of Fort Zelandia and the defences of the town of Amping in Formosa,

2. Their Lordships will observe by the annexed copy of a letter addressed by me to Her Majesty's Minister that I had made arrangements to assemble a force at Takow competent to occupy, if necessary, the town of Taiwan-foo, with a view to exacting the redress for outrages which had been denied to more peaceable efforts.

3. The prompt and gallant action of Lieutenant Gurdon has, however, anticipated the more extensive operations contemplated by me, and it only remains to be seen how far circumstances justified the action of that officer.

4. Mr. Gibson, Her Majesty's Acting Consul, having made a requisition to Lieutenant Gurdon, in which he stated that, "for the bare existence and interests of British subjects in Taiwan," it was necessary to seize and hold Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping as a guarantee for the settlement of the claims evaded by the Fukien Government during the previous five months, it appears that Lieutenant Gurdon was justified in complying with the urgent requisition of Her Majesty's Consul, who, in making it, assumed a grave responsibility; events, however, proved the wisdom of the course suggested by him, acting on which a settlement has been brought about by Lieutenant Gurdon of the just claims so long and contemptuously denied.

5. The Fort of Zelandia and defences of Amping form the key to the town of Taiwan-foo, from which it is distant about 3,000 yards.

6. As the Consul's negotiations started from the point that this key to Taiwan should be held by Her Majesty's forces as a guarantee for the fulfilment of his demands, the Chinese authorities committed a breach of faith in preparing for resistance by fortifying the defences.

7. The shoal water rendered it impossible for the "Algerine" to retain command of the town from the ship; she was distant about 2,000 yards from the forts, and could not have prevented the construction of earth-works at night. Forty-one guns had already been placed in position, 101 were found ready in store; a delay would have seen these guns in position, and Her Majesty's naval forces then at Formosa could not, with any hope of success, have attempted to storm so formidable a defence.

8. Lieutenant Gurdon, therefore, merits praise for the promptitude and gallantry with which he surprised the place at night, being alive to the importance of preventing the authorities further strengthening their position, as it was apparent that the means of defence at their command, if properly employed, would have enabled them to view with contempt the small force opposed to them, thus exposing British subjects in the district of Taiwan to the risk of fatal outrage.

9. Bearing in mind the brilliant success which marked Lieutenant Gurdon's operations, it is not my intention to reflect on the apparent inadequacy of the force with which they were undertaken. The men were in admirable discipline; the rapidity of their fire with the Snider rifle led the Chinese to believe that a much larger force was opposed to them. The judicious attack by night, combined with Lieutenant Gurdon's precaution to conceal his men until the moon had gone down, struck terror in the hearts of the native troops, leaving Lieutenant Gurdon master of a position to effect which peaceful diplomacy had exhausted every effort.

10. This review of Lieutenant Gurdon's proceedings enables me to warmly solicit their Lordships' favourable consideration of his gallant and judicious services. I trust also that their Lordships will be pleased to appreciate the important assistance rendered by

Mr. James Walker (B), Boatswain, an exemplary officer who has served six years in the Third Class. Their Lordships cannot fail to be gratified with the creditable and steady discipline of the "Algerine's" landing-party when fighting against twenty times their number.

11. Lieutenant Gurdon has brought about a result which appeared to me to require a force of 600 men. Had the Chinese authorities placed Taiwan-foo and Amping in a state of defence with the means at their command, the force I have named would have been indispensable, as the native garrison consists, I am informed, of 3,000 well-armed troops.

12. With reference to Lieutenant Gurdon's demands that 40,000 dollars should be handed over as a material guarantee to be returned when all the questions at issue were satisfactorily settled,—this sum was at once returned on Her Majesty's Consul expressing an opinion that the money being subscribed by the native merchants could not be viewed as a guarantee proceeding from the local authorities.

13. Finding, however, that Her Majesty's Consul still retains the sum of 10,000 dollars demanded by Lieutenant Gurdon, half to cover the cost of coal and ammunition expended, the remainder to be received as a ransom for the store of guns captured in the fort. I have requested Mr. Gibson to restore this sum to the local authorities, concurring with him in the belief that, otherwise, the impression might be formed that we were "in quest of money, not of justice."

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Singapore, December 10, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 29th October, informing me that you had brought the conduct of the Taoutae of Taiwan to the notice of the Tsungli Yamên, and that you had received the assurance of the Minister that it had been determined to remove him from his post.

With reference to your instructions to Mr. Consul Swinhoe to proceed to Taiwan, and prosecute further inquiries, in concert with the Senior Naval Officer, to enforce a full measure of justice for the injuries inflicted on British subjects both as regards persons and property, in reply, I have the honour to express my conviction that in Formosa it appears to be especially requisite to convince the authorities of our ability to enforce a due respect for our Treaty rights.

The copy of a Memorandum I have had occasion to address to Lieutenant Johnson of the "Bustard" will assure you of my disapproval of coercive threats being employed without ample means being at hand to carry them out.

To provide such means, I have directed Captain Ross to proceed to Formosa in the "Pearl," where he will take the "Perseus," "Rinaldo," "Dwarf," "Gnat," "Slaney," "Janus," and "Bustard" under his orders.

Your Excellency will further observe by the accompanying Memorandum that I disapprove of any coercive measures being adopted except such as cannot fail to be successful.

It appears to me that the addition of the "Rodney" to the force enumerated would provide a landing-party thoroughly competent to carry out operations; the first of which would probably be the capture and occupation of the town of Taiwan.

I have therefore instructed the Senior Officer on the coast of Formosa in accordance with these views, and as I hope to reach Shanghae early in January, where the "Rodney" awaits me, I shall be in a position to join the force off Takow a few days later should circumstances demand my presence.

The Senior Officer at Takow has been instructed to act with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Consul, to whom he is to afford a cordial and effective support.

I have furnished Mr. Swinhoe with a copy of this letter and its inclosures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Orders issued by Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Memo.

"Salamis," at Sarawak, November 23, 1868.

WITH reference to a letter from Lieutenant C. Johnson of the "Bustard," dated 3rd November, reporting that a Mandarin at Takow, attended by several of the Taoutae's soldiers, sent on the night of the 30th October for a Chinese in the employ of Messrs. Ellis and Co., and attempted to interrogate him in an unofficial and peremptory manner on matters connected with Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s affairs; and it appearing that Lieutenant Johnson landed, with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Consul, an armed force to compel the Mandarin to give up all claim to right in such behaviour, and further that Lieutenant Johnson addressed a letter to the Chintai at Taiwan, stating that he would make prisoners of any person or persons whom the Taoutae may send in an unofficial manner to interfere with British subjects or their servants,

I disapprove of the course adopted by Lieutenant Johnson, principally because the threats he holds out are likely to be impracticable with the force at his disposal, and consequently undignified.

The Formosa difficulty is one easily solved. Certain demands have been made for redress; if persistently denied, they will be enforced: but the authority to commence hostilities rests with Her Majesty's Representative in China.

Threats and expostulations are thrown away on the Taoutae at Taiwan: it is apparent that a severe punishment should be inflicted by a competent force. I have expressed to Her Majesty's Minister my readiness to execute this service with the force at my command. Her Majesty's Acting Consul and British subjects in Formosa may therefore be assured that satisfaction will be exacted in every case that it appears justly due, and ample redress secured for the breaches of Treaty rights of which British subjects have been the victims.

In the meantime, Her Majesty's Consul at Takow has no right to appeal to, or encourage, one of Her Majesty's officers to commit a directly hostile act towards the Chinese authorities. The present duty of Her Majesty's ships is to protect British life. If British subjects find they are not adequately protected on shore, they should embark in Her Majesty's ships.

To facilitate impending operations, I request that you will apply to Her Majesty's Consul for any information he can afford as to the number and nature of the force to be encountered at Taiwan, accompanied by a plan of the walls of that town, showing their height and accessibility; also the position of the gates, especially with reference to the official quarter, stating the number of guns in position, and whether the nature of the country will admit of field-batteries being brought up.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

To the Senior Officer of Her Majesty's Ships,
Takow.

Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

Orders issued by Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Memo.

"Salamis," at Singapore, December 10, 1868.

I INCLOSE, for your information and guidance, the copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Minister in China, giving cover to his letter of instructions to Mr. Consul Swinhoe, directing him to proceed to Formosa, where he is to demand full redress for the injuries inflicted on British subjects, both as regards persons and property. Should the authorities fail to afford full compliance with our demands, Mr. Swinhoe will place the matter in your hands.

You will wait my instructions before you adopt any coercive measures, except such as cannot possibly fail to be successful, such as the establishment of a blockade, or the seizure of vessels of the local Government, as a material guarantee for the fulfilment of our demands.

In all your proceedings you are to act with the concurrence of Mr. Swinhoe, to whom you will render a cordial and effective support.

You will promptly acquaint me with your proceedings, sending the duplicate of your letter under flying seal, to the Commodore, and the original to Shanghai, to wait my arrival.

Should further denial of our demands render it necessary to occupy the town of Taiwan, it is my intention to join you, without delay, in the "Rodney," accompanied by such additional force for operations on shore as your reports may appear to render necessary.

The following vessels are already either on the coast of Formosa, or are under orders for that destination, where they will be available for active operations in Takao and its neighbourhood:—"Pearl," "Perseus," "Rinaldo," "Dwarf," "Gnat," "Slaney," "Janus," and "Bustard."

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

The Senior Officer of Her Majesty's Ships,
Takow.

No. 8.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1869.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of the 17th instant, inclosing papers respecting the proceedings of Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Taiwan, in Formosa, and the Commander of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine" and expressing the wish of the Board of Admiralty to be informed whether his Lordship approves of those proceedings.

I am to request that you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that although no official reports of these transactions have as yet reached this office directly from any of Her Majesty's servants in China who are under the control of this office, yet as among the papers inclosed in your letter is found Mr. Gibson's Report of the 18th of December, to Sir Rutherford Alcock on the subject, Lord Clarendon considers that he is sufficiently well informed to admit of his at once making known to their Lordships his opinion, and he is compelled with regret to say that it is wholly unfavourable, whether as regards the conduct of the Acting Consul or that of the Naval Officer, save as regards the operations of the latter considered in a professional point of view, the appreciation of which he must leave to the Board of Admiralty.

There was clearly no occasion for these two subordinate authorities to commit any acts of hostility whatever; any danger to life or property was, for the time at least, at an end, and had been so for many weeks; the question at issue was the amount of reparation which might be due, to be ascertained by local inquiry; and any remissness on the part of the authorities to afford adequate reparation was a matter for discussion between Her Majesty's Minister and the Chinese Government at Peking, and not one to be adjusted by a precipitate recourse to reprisals by a subordinate Civil or Naval Officer.

Lord Clarendon will convey this opinion to Sir Rutherford Alcock by the next mail. The Lords of the Admiralty will see that his Lordship strongly disapproves of the proceedings on the part of the British officers concerned, and he sincerely trusts that the instructions recently sent to China by their Lordships and by himself will prevent the recurrence of these unnecessary acts of violence.

Equally reprehensible, in Lord Clarendon's view, are the many particulars stated in the correspondence, and to which his Lordship's attention is pointedly called in your letter, whether as regards the guarantee of 40,000 dollars demanded by the Commander of the "Algerine" and afterwards returned by him, or the two sums of 5,000 dollars each, one under the title of indemnity for expenditure of warlike stores in attacking the Chinese fort, the other under that of prize-money, which were exacted from the Chinese authorities.

Lord Clarendon considers that these last sums should be immediately returned to the Chinese authorities; and Sir Rutherford Alcock will be instructed to apprise the Chinese Government that the conduct of the British officers in exacting them is regretted and disavowed, and that orders have been given for the restitution of the money.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

P.S.—I inclose a copy of Lord Clarendon's instruction to Sir Rutherford Alcock, referred to in this letter.*

E. H.

No. 9.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1869.

I HAVE received from the Board of Admiralty a copy of Mr. Acting Consul Gibson's despatch to you of the 18th of December, reporting the measures of coercion which on his application had been applied to the Chinese authorities in the neighbourhood of Taiwan by Lieutenant Gurdon, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," in order to obtain redress for wrongs done to British subjects, missionaries and others. I have received no official report of these transactions from any other quarter; but as Mr. Gibson's report to you speaks for itself, there is no occasion for me to delay making known to you the impression produced on Her Majesty's Government by the transactions of which he gives an account.

I conclude the grievances at Taiwan are those to which the Inclosures No. 4 to No. 15 in your despatch of the 29th of October relate,* and as I find no other despatch from you to Mr. Gibson than that of the 29th of October, I presume that it is the despatch which Mr. Gibson erroneously quotes as bearing date the 9th of that month. I wish, for Mr. Gibson's sake, that such may not be the case; for I find in the copy of the despatch to him, which you have sent home, under date of the 29th of October, the following passage: "Until Mr. Swinhoe takes charge, you will continue to maintain, to the best of your ability, and with such means as are at your disposal, the Treaty rights so flagrantly violated, but avoiding any offensive measures, which, if found necessary, will be better undertaken when the force the Admiral proposes sending arrives with the Consul."

Rash and inexcusable as Mr. Gibson's proceedings would, under any circumstances, have been, they would be doubly so if your despatch was in his hands when, on the 20th of November, he called upon the Lieutenant commanding Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine" to make reprisals, by seizing and holding Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping.

You will learn from the inclosed copies of correspondence between this office and the Admiralty† the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of the measures by which Mr. Gibson's requisition was carried into effect. The Board of Admiralty will, of course, deal with their own officers; but as regards Mr. Gibson, I have to instruct you to convey to him my unqualified disapproval of his conduct, whether acting without having received your instructions of the 29th of October, or in neglect of them.

It is quite clear that Mr. Gibson is wholly unfit to be entrusted with any discretionary power, or to be placed in any other than a situation where he will be constantly under the superintendence and control of a superior Consular officer on the spot. His proper office is that of Interpreter, and you will be careful not to place under his charge the superintendence, even temporary, of a Consulate or Vice-Consulate, for the duties of which judgment, tact, discretion, and moderation are essential requisites.

I need scarcely say that under no circumstances must he be allowed to remain in Formosa; and I only hope that the judgment thus passed on his conduct will produce a salutary impression throughout the Consular service in China, and serve as a warning to all persons employed in it, that Her Majesty's Government will visit with the severest condemnation acts of violence wantonly undertaken and carried out without the express sanction of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 10.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 27.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 26, 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 23rd instant, expressing the disapproval of the Earl of Clarendon of the capture of Fort Zelandia and other operations carried out by Lieutenant Gurdon, commanding Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," in conjunction with Acting Consul Gibson, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Clarendon, a copy of a letter which has been addressed by their Lordships' desire to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

* See "China No. 2 (1869)," Inclosures 4 to 15 in No. 14.

† Nos. 6 and 8.

Inclosure in No. 10.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 26, 1869.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 6th January, and its inclosures, giving an account of the capture of Fort Zelandia and Amping in Taiwan, Formosa, by Lieutenant Gurdon, commanding Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," a report of which had already been received in a letter from Commodore Jones of 28th December.

Their Lordships having communicated with the Earl of Clarendon, regret that they must take an entirely different view of these transactions from that adopted by you.

A copy of the letter which was addressed by the Admiralty to the Foreign Office on the 17th instant, together with copy of Lord Clarendon's reply to the same, are transmitted herewith for your information.*

In conveying their Lordships' judgment in this unmistakeable manner, they desire me to state that they will not make any further remark on portions of your letter which they would otherwise have noticed at greater length.

With reference, however, to the manner in which the operations themselves were conducted (irrespective altogether of the propriety or wisdom of undertaking the same), my Lords desire me to express their appreciation of the great gallantry and skill displayed by Lieutenant Gurdon and the officers and men under his command; and, in conformity with your wish, Mr. James Walker the boatswain recommended in your despatch, will receive a special promotion to the Second Class of Warrant Officers.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 11.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 1.)

Sir,

Admiralty, March 31, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated 27th January, stating the complete fulfilment of all demands made by the British authorities on the Taiwan Government, Formosa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rodney," at Hong Kong, January 27, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. Consul Swinhoe, referring to the recent successful proceedings of Lieutenant Thornhaugh P. Gurdon at Amping, in the Taiwan district of Formosa, together with the copy of an order I had addressed to the Senior Officer of this division, previous to the receipt of Mr. Swinhoe's letter.

2. I have also the honour to forward the copy of a letter from Mr. Gibson, Acting Consul at Taiwan, reporting the complete fulfilment of all his demands,—a result brought about by the prompt steps taken by Lieutenant Gurdon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Mr. Matheson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

The Holmwood, Dorking, March 31, 1869.

IN order that a correct view may be obtained by your Lordship of the position of the Protestant Mission in Formosa, in relation to the late events in that island, I take the liberty of offering the following information:—

That Mission is a branch of one whose head-quarters are at Amoy on the mainland, and which is maintained by the English Presbyterian Church.

It has now been in existence for twenty-one years, and in that time 550 Chinese have been gathered into the Christian Church, scattered in little groups over a wide extent of country. There are few of these Chinese converts who have not suffered more or less persecution for the sake of the Gospel.

There are now ten missionaries on the staff, all of them men of intelligence, prudence, and piety, and who have had a college training of from seven to eight years before leaving this country. One of their number, who died lately, was the Rev. W. C. Burns, whose name is honoured wherever foreigners are known in China, and who was consulted by Lord Elgin on his first going to that country.

Another, Dr. Maxwell, commenced the Mission in Formosa in 1865, by taking a house in Taiwan-foo, the capital of the island. The people were most friendly; and Dr. Maxwell being a medical missionary at once won his way. But some literary students stirred up a mob and he was compelled to retire, and took up his quarters at Takow, a neighbouring seaport. Here he built a hospital and, with several native Christians as evangelists, he has been engaged during the last three years in healing the sick and preaching the gospel in the surrounding country.

As one result of these labours, there are now eighteen baptized converts, chiefly belonging to a town called Pitow, about seven miles inland.

It was soon found that the Chinese authorities entertained an inveterate hatred of all foreigners, whether missionaries or merchants: and nearly all the late troubles have been traceable to officials connected with the local Government.

Last summer, inflammatory placards were widely circulated, stating that the conversions were effected by poisoning the food of the people, the populace became excited, the chapel at Pitow was attacked by a mob, and destroyed; one of the evangelists was imprisoned, and the native Christians and their families had to flee for their lives. Soon after this, one of the most remarkable of the converts was brutally murdered when visiting a neighbouring village on his own private affairs; and after being stoned to death, his heart was torn out, and eaten by the most savage of his murderers.

As a Mission we deprecate the idea of seeking the support of an armed force in carrying on our work, and our missionaries are prepared to meet dangers and opposition in the conflict of Christianity with heathenism; but as native Christians are entitled to protection under the Treaty, and it was wholly denied them by their own Government, Dr. Maxwell sent a Memorial to Her Majesty's Representative at Peking, praying for the redress of these grievances.

On some previous occasions the happiest results have been attained by the timely intervention of the Consular authorities; and it has always been felt to be a graceful act on the part of a Christian Government. Perhaps I may be permitted to state, after an experience of China, extending over thirty years, first as a merchant and partner in the firm of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., of Hong Kong, and afterwards in connection with missionary operations, that the wise and vigorous action of the Consular authorities in meeting the artifice and duplicity of the Chinese officials has repeatedly produced the most beneficial results, I will not say in the cause of missions merely, but in the cause of peace and order.

Personally I feel deeply grateful for the deliverance effected in Formosa by the Consul and the naval officers who were engaged in the settlement of these difficulties; and I trust that our Mission will be exonerated from any blame in regard to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

DOND. MATHESON,

*One of the Committee for Foreign Missions of the
English Presbyterian Church.*

Inclosure in No. 12.

Statistics of the Presbyterian Church Mission.

CHINA.

Missionaries.

The Rev. W. C. Burns	..	..	arrived in China 1847, now at New-chwang.
" C. Douglas	..	..	" 1855, " Amoy.
" George Smith	..	..	" 1857, " Swatow.
" W. S. Swanson (returning to)	..	..	" 1860, " Amoy.
" H. L. Mackenzie	..	..	" 1860, " Swatow.
" Hugh Cowie	..	..	" 1863, " Amoy.
" W. Macgregor	..	..	" 1864, " Amoy.
" Hugh Ritchie	..	..	" 1867, " Formosa.
William Gauld, M.D.	..	..	" 1863, " Swatow.
James Maxwell, M.D.	..	..	" 1863, " Formosa.

Native Evangelists.—18 at Amoy, 8 at Swatow, and 6 at Formosa.

Students at Amoy, 9.

Stations.

District of Amoy.—E-mung-kang, Pechuia, Bay-pay, Khi-boey, Liong-bun-see, Yu-boey-kio, Anhai, Chin-chew, Peh-chioh, Yu-bu-siu.

District of Swatow.—Swatow, Tat-hau-po, Yam-tsau, Ching-chung, Ampow, Ung-kung, Toa-soa-thau, Kway-tham, Saipow, Hoo city.

District of Formosa.—Ta-kow, Petaou or Pitow.

Account of Cheng-hong, who was murdered.

Chen-hong had been an officer on board a junk, and one of the sailors having met with an accident, Chen-hong had him conveyed to Amoy hospital, and watched him for two successive nights. The hospital-keeper, an aged Christian, conversed with Cheng-hong on the subject of religion. The truth took hold of him, and on returning to his native place in the north of Formosa, he at once destroyed the idols in his house; but finding no spiritual rest, and hearing of a Christian mission in the south of the island, he left part of his property in charge of a relative, and taking some money concealed in a girdle, he set out on a nine days' journey on foot, in search of the mission chapel. He reached Takow on a Saturday, dusty and foot-sore, and told his tale. The following day he heard the Gospel preached, listened with intense earnestness, and at once embraced the truth. After his baptism, he set up in business at Takow, and has since then been most useful in assisting to spread the knowledge of salvation.

No. 13.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Matheson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, containing information as to the position of the Protestant mission in Formosa in relation to the late events in that island; and, in reply, I am to state to you that Her Majesty's Government regret very much that missionaries and their converts should be exposed to persecution, but that they cannot depart from the view expressed in Mr. Hammond's letter to the Missionary Society of the 10th of February, and in Lord Stanley's despatch of December 1 to Sir R. Alcock, as to the course that missionaries should pursue in China, both of which documents have been laid before Parliament, and are to be found in the Blue Book, China No. 2 (1869.)

I am at the same time to observe to you that Her Majesty's Government cannot approve of the conduct of Her Majesty's Acting Consul in Formosa, with reference to the events in that island to which you have called Lord Clarendon's attention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. OTWAY.

Mr. Matheson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

The Holmwood, Dorking, April 8, 1869.

WHILE tendering my sincere thanks for your Lordship's courteous reply to a previous communication. I trust that I shall not be thought presumptuous in again addressing your Lordship on the same subject, as the deepest anxiety is felt in some quarters as to the effect that may be produced in China by the reversal of the settlement effected in Formosa, and the removal of the Vice-Consul as stated by your Lordship in the Upper House.

Fearing that no connected narrative of the Formosa difficulties has as yet reached your Lordship, I take the liberty of inclosing one which may be relied on as thoroughly trustworthy, and I venture to hope that it may tend to modify at least the severe punishment to be inflicted on an able and faithful public servant, as well as to induce your Lordship to reconsider the probable consequences of tendering an apology to men utterly unable to appreciate it, and for conduct which, although open to censure in the light of the new instructions, has nevertheless, in connection with the firm attitude of Her Majesty's Minister in Peking, contributed to the gratifying fact stated by your Lordship that our relations with China have never been more satisfactory.

At the same time let me assure your Lordship that it will be the constant aim of the Presbyterian Mission to endeavour to act in the spirit of the arrangements lately concluded between Her Majesty's Government and the Court of Peking, so as to avoid to the utmost of our power any possible cause of irritation between the two countries.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DOND. MATHESON.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Narrative of Events in the Island of Formosa, 1868.

WE are now, I believe, so near to a thorough and satisfactory termination of the various difficulties which had brought to a deadlock the relation between the Consular Representatives of foreign Powers and the local Government of Formosa, that it is possible briefly to review the position from the commencement of the present crisis, and so enable your readers to understand the value of the results which have been obtained. I do not pledge myself, however, that Chinese duplicity, and Formosa Chinese duplicity in particular, shall not again show itself in some form or other before the terms now agreed upon are fully performed. The present crisis was preceded by a long tale of difficulties in the relations between foreign residents and the local government, dating from the time of the establishment of the foreign Customs in the island. Distance from the mainland, a peculiar and absurd pride, on the part of the aristocracy of the Foo City, resting on the fact of some terrible outrages on foreigners in bygone years, which had remained unpunished, and some specialities of corruption in the form of the local government, all combined to render the position of foreigners in the island anything but agreeable, and to make the chance of justice, in cases in which foreigners were involved, exceedingly shadowy. Our more immediate difficulties, however, date from the beginning of April of the present year. About that date a considerable purchase of camphor had been made for the hong by the compradore of Messrs. Ellis and Co. This purchase amounted to the value of 6,000 dollars, and was accomplished in Wu-chai, a place considerably to the north of Taiwan-too; this camphor was bought in thorough consistency with the terms of the Treaty, which expressly stipulates camphor as one of the articles of legal trade. In spite of this, however, it was suddenly laid hold of at Wu-chai, and forcibly carried off by the agents of the Taoutae, whose authority extends throughout the whole Chinese portion of the island.

On the news of this procedure, the United States' gun-boat "Aroostook," with M. le Gendre, the United States' Consul at Amoy, who was then visiting the southern portion of Formosa, and Mr. Jamieson, the Acting British Consul at Takow, visited the Taoutae at his yamên in Taiwan-foo, and remonstrated with him on the illegality of this procedure. In answer, he claimed all camphor in the island as Imperial property—a most atrocious claim, inasmuch as no part of it is found on Imperial ground—and denied to foreigners any right to trade in it without his own special permission. At the same time, however, he came to a distinct agreement with the two Consuls that the camphor in

question should be released or a money indemnity paid in its stead. Up to the hour at which I write, neither camphor nor money have been forthcoming, and if now it is about to be paid it is only under the pressure of a force which had become necessary when all the moral force had failed.

Following up the policy of his predecessors, who had succeeded in expelling the Protestant missionaries from Taiwan-foo, Liang Taoutac, in the beginning of the present year, refused to ratify a purchase within the walls in Taiwan-foo, on the part of the Roman Catholic Mission in Formosa, or to take any notice of an outrage upon their premises, an outrage, doubtless, which was not carried out without the cognizance of the Yamèn officials. They allowed and encouraged most infamous reports, regarding the proceedings of both Protestant and Roman Catholic missionaries and their converts, to spread unchecked throughout the whole South of Formosa, until the underlings of the various Yamèns, seeing that the popular mind was sufficiently excited, were able, without fear, to lead parties to the destruction of all the chapels within their reach.

In the beginning of April they sacked and burnt a Roman Catholic Chapel at Koè-kan; on the 11th of the same month, they sacked and tore down the Protestant chapel at Pitow, the district city. On the same day, they (the Yamèn underlings) brutally assaulted a Protestant Catechist in the streets of Pitow, who barely succeeded in escaping their knives, and reaching the District Mandarin, coolly shut him up in prison, and he was not released for seven weeks. On the 24th of April, another Protestant Catechist was set upon in a village, only five miles from the Consulate at Takow, was murdered in open day and on the public street, his body cut in pieces, and his heart eaten by some of the bolder of his murderers, at the north gate of the old city, close by. In Pitow, the houses of the adherents of the Protestant Church were broken into and sacked, the women driven out to the streets and the males of the party compelled to flee for their lives to Takow. The Roman Catholics in Taiwan-foo were, in the beginning of May, once more outraged, their premises again destroyed, and one of their number bamboozed and imprisoned by the district magistrate of Taiwan-foo. The remonstrances of Mr. Acting Consul Jamieson were utterly without avail, nor was a visit of that gentleman, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Keppel, and a party of men from Her Majesty's gun-boat "Janus," to the district magistrate of Pitow, of any further value in securing the release of the imprisoned Protestant Catechist.

In the end of June, Mr. Hardie, the agent of Messrs. Tait and Co., at Taiwan-foo, was suddenly, and on the most frivolous pretext, attacked by one of the official servants of the Leking office, while on his way from Takow to Taiwan-foo. This man, unobserved by Mr. Hardie, suddenly came behind him and stabbed him forcibly in the side of the chest with a knife. Fortunately it impinged on a rib, and except the loss of blood, and a severe pleurisy which afterwards followed, no great evil resulted. At the time, however, Mr. Hardie had to defend himself from several attacks of this man with the knife, assisted by another, and only with great difficulty succeeded in saving his life. Until this hour this man remains unpunished. So gross was the case, however, that the authorities, on the urgent instance of Mr. Gibson, the Acting British Consul, who had just at that time arrived, did make a show of seizing the man, and sent a special deputy that he might be punished before Mr. Gibson at the place where the outrage occurred. So manifestly, however, was the professed infliction of punishment an utter sham and deception, that, on the one hand, the bystanders laughed, and, on the other, Her Majesty's Acting-Consul declared publicly to the deputy that he could not look on the proceedings as other than additional insult, and left the place in disgust. Mr. Gibson took the place of Mr. Jamieson on the 1st of July, and immediately forwarded despatches to the various Yamèns, announcing his assumption of the Taiwan Consulate. On the 14th of July, a despatch was received at the Consulate from the Taoutac, refusing to recognize Mr. Gibson as Acting British Consul, and it was not until Lord Charles Scott arrived with Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," about the end of August, that the Taoutac would humble himself to recognize the new Acting Consul. Mr. Gibson describes this despatch of Taoutac's as a standing insult to Lord Charles Scott and himself.

During the month of August another episode was being transacted at Cou-chai. Mr. Pickering, of Messrs. Elles and Co., had proceeded thither, under the permission of Mr. Jamieson, to inquire after the camphor, which, in spite of the Taoutac's promise, was not forthcoming. For this journey Mr. Pickering had only the Consular passport, the Taoutac refusing to grant or sign any passport to foreigners to any place outside of Takow or Taiwan. The Taoutac no sooner knew of Mr. Pickering's having gone to Cou-chai than he gave orders to have him destroyed. The Ting of Lok-kang tried to carry out this order by means of his soldiers, but Mr. Pickering happening to be a man of peculiar courage and resolution, and being well acquainted also with the character of the Formosa

militia, held his ground firmly, defended resolutely with fire-arms the place where he was lodged, routed his assailants again and again, but finally had to make his way with great difficulty to the sea-shore, and was then driven in a small boat by a storm to Tamsuy, in the north of the island. During all this time the Taoutae never once attempted to complain to the Consul of Mr. Pickering, or to discuss with him the legality of his proceeding.

On the 29th of August, Lord Charles Scott and the Consul had an interview with the Taoutae of Taiwan-foo, according to express agreement with the latter. During this interview the Taoutae behaved in a most extraordinary manner, becoming enraged, and with his fan sharply striking Mr. Gibson over the hands, and thereupon contemptuously leaving the room. After waiting in vain for the space of three-quarters of an hour for his return, Lord Charles Scott and Mr. Gibson left. They continued their negotiations, however, in writing with the Taoutae, and finally succeeded in eliciting from him a despatch complying with Mr. Gibson's conditions, and promising that justice should be done. I have omitted to mention above that on the 30th of July the Protestant chapel at Pitow, being, under the Consul's advice, in process of rebuilding, was again attacked by the Pitow soldiery, all the new materials carried off, and the remainder of the building destroyed. Mr. Gibson had counselled the rebuilding of the chapel, in the hope that the authorities, having had so many remonstrances, might of themselves see fit to act differently than in the past. He was mistaken, as it was again destroyed.

The despatch to Lord Charles Scott seemed to promise so fair that it was hoped all would soon be put right. Our hopes were doomed to disappointment. Not only was nothing remedied, but not even the faintest attempt was made to try to remedy the outstanding grievances. New threats were made against the merchants; a demand was made that leking should be paid by their goods which were still in the hong, although they had already paid Customs dues. Mast dues were asked for the ships, besides the Customs dues, and to try to ruin one hong which was more obnoxious than another, a double leking was placed upon goods proceeding from that hong into Chinese hands. On the 2nd of September, the British Consul, wishing to elicit whether the Taoutae had had the slightest good faith in making the promises he had made a month before to Lord Charles Scott, wrote to the Pitow magistrate, in whose district most of the criminal cases had occurred, that on a certain day he would pay him a visit with the Lieutenant Commander of the "Bustard," at his yamên in Pitow. He received for answer an injunction not to come to Pitow; that as the Taoutae had not given him, the District Magistrate, any orders concerning any criminals, he really had nothing to discuss with him, and that the people would be much enraged if he came. This despatch showed what reliance was to be placed on any statement, oral or written, of the present Taoutae of Taiwan. Mr. Gibson, however, was very much dissatisfied with the evident desire of the Pitow Magistrate to prevent his visiting that city, distant only eight miles from the Consulate, and so wrote back insisting that he should come on the day which he had previously fixed. Next day brought another despatch from the Pitow Magistrate, stating that on the afternoon of the day before, a large collection of bones had been found under the ruins of the Protestant chapel; that the bones, including three skulls and other bones, were evidently fresh, and that they clearly enough showed that Dr. Maxwell, a Protestant missionary physician, and his associates, had been guilty of murder, and of secreting the bones of their victims. This rather serious charge by a District Magistrate was followed by an injunction to the Consul to seize Dr. Maxwell and have him tried, and to send a certain Chinese Protestant into Pitow, that he might meet with his due punishment for such diabolical crimes in the district city. The Consul replied, that on the following day he would bring Dr. Maxwell and the Chinese to Pitow, to be tried there before a Joint Court. The District Magistrate, seeing no other escape from exposure in connection with this abominable conspiracy to which he had lent himself, at once wrote back that he positively refused to see the Consul, and that if he came he would find that his way would be stopped by force.

This refusal of the Magistrate to meet Mr. Gibson necessarily put a stop to his visit; but diligent inquiry was made as to the intended opposition, and it was found beyond all question that the Yamên had put forth its strength, had gathered in armed people in large numbers into Pitow, and outside had planted three ambuscades of very considerable strength on the way, by which the Consul and his party should have to pass. The Consul, writing to Taiwan-foo of this, and complaining at once of the faithlessness of the Taoutae and the hardihood of his subordinates, was met with an insolent and derisive answer.

Things remained at this pass, when at the end of October two events occurred which showed that all hope of carrying on any relations with Liang Taoutae was at an end. One event was the receipt by the Consul of a despatch from the Taoutae informing him that,

having referred the mercantile questions in dispute to the Viceroy, he had been answered that he (the Taoutae) had erred only by over-much leniency towards the foreigners, and that it behoved him to act much more sharply. This was followed in a few days by the sacking in Taiwan-foo of the house of Ellis and Co.'s compradore, and the carrying off of money and property to the value of many thousand dollars.

Not content with this high-handed proceeding, they had the hardihood, in the belief that the compradore himself had escaped to Takow, to send down a Mandarin and soldiers to that port to seize him, the person sought being the compradore of a British merchant, and all this without one word of reference to the British Consul.

At this juncture the "Algerine" arrived, followed a day or two later, in a Chinese gun-boat, by the Taoutae of Amoy, who had been empowered by the Viceroyal Government at Foo-chow to come over and settle the various questions in dispute. After a week's delay in Taiwan-foo, this official, along with the Prefect of the Taiwan-foo, appeared in Takow, and on the following day had a conference with Mr. Gibson, in the presence of the naval officers of the "Algerine" and "Bustard," and some of the foreign residents. It was found at once that the Amoy Taoutae had no power to remove any of the offending officials; and as anything short of this would have been the merest farce after the eight months' patient waiting on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Mr. Gibson simply refused to discuss individual matters of detail with him. At the same time he gave him full access to all the sources of information regarding the state of affairs in Taiwan, so far as the British Consulate could afford, and prepared a full statement of the wrongs and misdoings of the officials for his careful examination.

Finding that Tseng, the Amoy Taoutae, was unprepared to act as he desired, Mr. Gibson, in conjunction with the naval officers, now took a step which instantly altered the whole aspect of affairs. On the 20th of November he started with the "Algerine" and "Bustard" for Amping, the sea-port of Taiwan-foo; arrived there on the morning of the 21st, landed with a party and reconnoitred the place, and without opposition took possession of it, and of Fort Zelandia, to be held thenceforth as a material guarantee until all existing claims and grievances should be settled. Placing the position in charge of Lieutenant-Commander Gurdon, of the "Algerine," and having by proclamation warned the inhabitants of the Amping and Taiwan-foo, and the official of the latter city of his proceedings, he returned in the "Bustard" to Takow. He arrived in Takow on Sunday night, the 22nd of November, and on Monday informed the Amoy Taoutae of the proceedings at Amping, and on Tuesday, the 24th of November, had an audience with that gentleman, when all his (Mr. Gibson's) demands were granted; the removal of the Taoutae of Taiwan, of the District Magistrate of Pitow, and of the Ting of Lokkang, to be effected by the Amoy Taoutae taking his steamer to Foo-chow, and there securing the instant dismissal of the offenders by the Viceroy. At the same time it was agreed that the British gun-boat should hold military possession of Amping until the Governor and his associates were removed from office. This was eminently satisfactory, and there could be no doubt at all of the intentions of the Amoy Taoutae. On the day following this conference, however, the Taiwan-foo authorities, stung by the thought of the ignoring of their position, shut out from their sea-port by a single British gun-boat, determined to retake Amping. It is not quite certain how much the Taiwan-foo authorities knew of the result of the preceding day's conference at Takow. It is shrewdly suspected that they knew all, but were keen to be delivered from the insult of the gun-boat. I should say, that after the first formal taking possession of the place, Lieutenant Gurdon had re-embarked his men, not a large number in all by any means, expecting to command the place by the guns of his vessel. On Wednesday, the 25th of November, the Taiwan-foo authorities sent down 500 men to re-occupy the place. This they did, and began actively to mount guns to defend the place. Lieutenant Gurdon having been informed of this, sent a letter to the Chinese military commander in the place, that if within an hour he had not evacuated the fort and town, he, Lieutenant Gurdon, must proceed to shell it. At the same hour he warned the inhabitants to clear out. His remonstrance was in vain, so for an hour and a-half before night-fall, he cautiously and slowly poured in shot and shell into the fort. In the evening Lieutenant Gurdon received Mr. Gibson's letter, detailing the conference of the previous day and its results, and showing how much their speedy fulfilment must depend on his keeping fast hold of Amping. Lieutenant Gurdon seeing, however, he was being shut out of the place altogether, determined to storm it. About midnight he landed with a party of volunteers, twenty-five in all, passing through the surf in safety themselves, but losing one of their boats in it, lay in wait behind a bank on the shore, until the moon was fairly down, and then, all undiscovered, sallied right into the place. Making their way to the Hep-tai's yamen, they found it filled with soldiers. The Lieutenant invited them, by an interpreter, to lay down their arms, but they refused and showed fight, and

in self-defence the assaulting party was compelled to fire. They did so, killing eleven men and wounding six others; the rest of the garrison took to flight. A few hours later, in the dim light of morning, Lieutenant Gurdon, while examining the approaches from Taiwan-foo, heard the noise of a large body of men in the distance, and having planted his men, they shortly descried a party, which was afterwards ascertained to be composed of 250 Honan braves. When at about 200 yards, the "Algerines" with their Sniders opened on the advancing braves, who stood for about five minutes returning the fire. After losing six men killed and ten wounded, however, they turned tail and fled to Taiwan-foo, leaving Lieutenant Gurdon and his blue jackets in possession of the prize. This very brave and very determined action on the part of Lieutenant Gurdon has put the seal on the previous set of conditions agreed to, and again at Amping re-agreed to by the Amoy Taoutae for the Vice-regal Government. The consternation at Taiwan-foo was very great. A guarantee of 40,000 dollars was paid down at once to Lieutenant Gurdon by the merchants of Taiwan-foo, who were professedly acting for the local Government, that the conditions should be fulfilled. This money has since been returned, as a guarantee of no value, but a claim of 10,000 dollars against the local Government has been enforced by Lieutenant Gurdon:—5,000 dollars to pay expenses of British Government in the expedition, and 5,000 dollars as prize-money for the officers and men of the "Algerine." This has been paid up, and the other conditions of agreement, as detailed below, are now in process of being carried out:—

1. The abolition of the camphor monopoly, with proclamations declaring the right of foreigners and their employés to go and buy freely.

2. The issuing of passports by the Taoutae to merchants and others to travel, for business or pleasure, within the Island of Taiwan.

3. Payment of 6,000 dollars, indemnity for loss of camphor by Ellis and Co.

4. Payment of 1,167 dollars, indemnity for loss of property by Protestant Mission.

5. Payment of 2,000 dollars, indemnity for loss of property by Catholic Mission.

6. Payment of all claims of Ellis and Co's compradore, for losses in the sacking of his house.

7. The punishment of the various criminals connected with the various outrages, to the satisfaction of the British Consul.

8. The issuing of proclamations everywhere, acknowledging the injustice of the slanders hitherto circulated against Christianity and Christians, and protecting them thoroughly against the renewal of such.

9. The right of residence and of work, to missionaries in the island.

10. Proclamations recognizing the propriety of joint courts in mingled cases, and intimating such in the future.

11. The removal of Liang Taoutae, of the district magistrate of Pitow, and of the Ting of Lokang.

The various indemnities are already paid to the Consul; the criminals are in process of being seized; and it is fully expected that ere many weeks, with a new set of magistrates who shall have had the advantage of this recent lesson, the foreign residents in Formosa shall enjoy equal privileges with their fellows on the mainland, and an amount of freedom in moving about in the island which shall be a very great boon. Meanwhile, military possession is retained of Amping, until all conditions are fully carried out. As one of the oldest residents in Formosa, I feel thankful for the atmosphere of freedom, which these recent events have secured for us, and for this we have to thank, under God, the patient tenacity and admirable sharp decision of our admirable Consul, the distinguished courage of our naval officers and men, and the cordial support which, I understand, has been accorded by his Excellency the British Ambassador to the proceedings of the British Consul. Inclosing my card, I beg to subscribe myself,

(Signed)

AN OLD RESIDENT.

Takow, Formosa, December 4, 1868.

No. 15.

Mr. Murray to Mr. Matheson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 12, 1869.*
 I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, inclosing a printed account of the events which have recently taken place in the Island of Formosa.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 16.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 22.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April 22, 1869.*
 I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 23rd February, covering copies of a correspondence relative to the recent capture of the defences of Amping and Fort Zelandia, in the Taiwan district of Formosa, by Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," on the requisition of Mr. Consul Gibson.

Should Lord Clarendon concur, my Lords propose to inform Sir H. Keppel that having already communicated to him the views of Her Majesty's Government on these transactions my Lords have only now to observe that they are glad to notice by the concluding sentence of Sir Henry Keppel's letter to Sir R. Alcock that he had become aware of the undue precipitancy and excess of zeal displayed by Lieutenant Gurdon. They make no doubt that he will, before the receipt of the letter my Lords propose to address to him, have impressed upon the officers under his command the necessity of well weighing the responsibility which they incur in complying with the demands of Consular officers that they should commit acts of violence against the subjects of a Sovereign at peace with Her Majesty.

It is presumed that the inclosures to Sir Henry Keppel's letter have already been received at the Foreign Office, and it is requested they may be returned when done with.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Salamis," at Shanghai, February 23, 1869.*
 I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of two letters addressed to me by Her Majesty's Minister in China in reference to the recent capture of the defences of Amping and Fort Zelandia, in the Taiwan district of Formosa, on the requisition of Mr. Consul Gibson, together with a copy of my reply to the same.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir, *Peking, January 28, 1869.*
 I AM in receipt of an official letter from His Imperial Highness the Prince of Kung,* stating that a Memorial had been received from the Viceroy of Fukien and Che-kiang and the Governor of Fukien, to the following effect:—

* See Inclosure 13 in No. 18.

It is reported that on the 23rd of November, after a settlement of pending differences in Formosa had been effected by Mr. Gibson and a special Commissioner sent from the mainland for that purpose, in accordance with instructions from the Tsungli Yamên, two gun-boats had proceeded to Amping, the port of Taiwan, and bombarded Fort Zelandia. Subsequently, a supply-vessel belonging to the Pescadore's squadron had been towed away about midnight of the same day, the commander and two soldiers on board being made prisoners; and the same night the commanding officer of the gun-boat, whose name is given as "Chie-tang," supposed to be Lieutenant Gurdon, landed some men and took the fort, killing and wounding the soldiers defending it; upon which the officer in command, Chung-kuo-chen, being overpowered and wounded, committed suicide.

The Memorial proceeds to state that one soldier and ten braves were killed and thirteen others wounded, and that the military stores and powder magazines were set on fire and destroyed. Later, the naval officer demanded and received 40,000 dollars as the condition of a cessation of hostilities, and under threat of bombarding the city of Amping if not paid into his hands at once.

The Special Commissioner having subsequently proceeded from Takow to Amping, he had a conference with Mr. Gibson and the said naval officer on the 29th of November, when it was agreed that the 40,000 dollars should be returned to the gentry and merchants; but in the end, that officer insisted on either deducting 10,000 dollars from the sum he held, "to make good his expenses," or receiving that amount from the authorities.

This sum was then handed to him and his receipt taken, when the captured vessel and men were restored, with the previous 40,000 dollars, which had been held as a guarantee.

This is the substance of the Memorial made to the Throne by the Viceroy and Governor; and as I have only received a short despatch from Mr. Gibson, dated the 25th November, stating that he had "nominally taken possession of Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping, as a reprisal on the 22nd, and on the 24th, as a consequence, he had come to a settlement of outstanding claims with the Special Commissioner," promising to furnish all the details shortly. I have no official information of the facts as they really occurred.

Under these circumstances, I could only state to the Prince, in my reply, that until in possession of further information and the official report of the proceedings referred to, which I daily expected from Mr. Gibson, it was out of my power to enter into any discussion as to the particulars. But, in the meantime, Mr. Gibson having no authority from me to commit acts of hostility, if the facts should prove to be as represented by the High Authorities of Fukien in their Memorial, both Mr. Gibson and the naval officer in question would be held responsible by Her Majesty's Government for their action. As regarded the money said to have been exacted for "expenses," if any such course had been followed, the amount taken should certainly be returned.

That your Excellency may more fully understand the position of affairs and the necessity for promptly disavowing any unauthorized acts of war, I inclose a copy of my letter in reply to the Prince. You will see that although I readily gave the assurance of my willingness to examine into the whole matter in a spirit of justice, and expressed my desire to act in accordance with international law and usage, I pointed out to His Imperial Highness that the High Authorities of Fukien were themselves chiefly responsible for any untoward collision that may have taken place by their persistent neglect in affording redress or putting a stop to continuous acts of violence and spoliation perpetrated on British subjects and their property by the local authorities and natives under their orders and jurisdiction.

It cannot be denied, nevertheless, that any actual hostilities entered into by Mr. Gibson and the Commander of the gun-boat leading to loss of life are greatly to be regretted, and can hardly be defended under any conceivable circumstances. The precipitation of the officers temporarily in charge, the one of the Consulate and the other of the gun-boat, has rendered unavailing all the care and the concerted measures agreed upon between your Excellency and myself to bring matters to a satisfactory settlement without the necessity of any recourse to force by the appearance of a squadron, under a Senior Officer of high rank, supporting the demands of Mr. Swinhoe, confirmed and approved from Peking after conference with the Foreign Board on the subject.

I had every reason to calculate with certainty on the mere presence of an imposing and effective force, sufficing, as in the Yang-chow affair, to secure the result without any collision, or the adoption of measures constituting an act of war. An embargo of vessels, or a simple blockade of a very partial and temporary kind, was the utmost stretch of coercive power that I contemplated as likely to be needful under the most adverse circum-

stances, and these are measures recognized by international law as acts of retortion *vid facti*, that States may legitimately resort to under given circumstances, and which, nevertheless, fall short of war, and are not considered acts of hostility. Property, even if wrongly seized under embargo, may be restored, and redress afforded by negotiation or civil process, but acts of hostility involving loss of life are not so easily repaired or defended, and fall under a totally different law.

At present I wait for more ample information before I can pronounce any judgment or decide upon the course it may be necessary to follow with the Chinese Government. But if, as I infer, there is no doubt that a sum of money has been exacted by the Senior Naval Officer of the gun-boats, on the untenable ground of ransom or "expenses," it is quite clear that it must be refunded at once.

Indeed, I feel assured, that as soon as it may have come to your knowledge, the necessary orders will have been given. Of the character of the act itself, and the responsibility that the exaction of money under the circumstances may entail on all concerned, I reserve my opinion until in possession of all the facts of the case, which I trust to receive from your Excellency, to whom, no doubt, a full report was transmitted by the naval officer in command.

The Prince of Kung writes to me, not unnaturally, to make a very indignant protest; for apart from the feelings with which a sudden act of war (such as the Memorialists describe, where life is lost, and an insult is offered at the same time to the sovereignty of an independent Power), would be regarded by any Government, the course followed by the Viceroy of Fukien in addressing his Memorial direct to the Throne, has no doubt placed, as it was intended, the Prince and his Foreign Board, of which he is President, in a very unpleasant position, as being answerable for the foreign relations maintained, and in some degree therefore held responsible for the humiliation thus inflicted by two subaltern officers of a foreign Power.

The Prince concludes his communication by an intimation that, having appealed to me in the first instance, he was in no haste to inform the Chinese Envoy of this case, that it might be communicated to the British Government; nor did he notify it to the several foreign Ministers, because "his Excellency, in his Ministerial capacity, whenever international questions have arisen at the ports, has always dealt justly by them." They are making progress in their diplomatic education, it is very obvious; and for my part I am quite quite ready to admit, that if a Minister on the spot will not, to do them justice, they are perfectly entitled to refer the matter in question direct, by their own mission, to the Home Government, and to notify to other Courts the steps taken. It affords the best security, perhaps, the Chinese can have, for the abstinence from wrongful acts of any one foreign Representative or Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung, January 28, 1869.

[See Inclosure 14 in No. 18.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, January 28, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 10th ultimo, with its inclosures, and can only regret that so much pains and care to prevent precipitate action, and the premature adoption of measures of coercion, should have been thrown away and made of no avail by the unauthorized proceedings of those temporarily in charge of affairs at Taiwan and Takow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Shanghai, February 23, 1869.

THE anticipations expressed in your Excellency's letters of the 28th January, to the effect that you felt assured I should direct the return of the ransom obtained from the Taiwan authorities by Lieutenant Gurdon, you will find to be realized by my despatch of the 6th ultimo.

Your Excellency will further have observed, by the copy of my Report to the Admiralty, that I was not disposed to condemn Lieutenant Gurdon's proceedings.

During the protracted correspondence resulting from Chinese outrages on British subjects in Formosa, I understood by your Excellency's letters that diplomacy had almost exhausted every effort to bring about a settlement of just claims. I therefore lost no time in assembling a considerable force in the southern portion of Formosa, to act solely on your requisition, under my personal command, if events proved that active measures were demanded.

The Yang-chow crisis proved that a display of force would probably have been sufficient to also secure us justice in Formosa. I therefore share in your Excellency's regret that the urgent requisition of Her Majesty's Consul should have required an act of war when the end could have been gained by a milder form of coercion.

I forward, for your Excellency's information, a copy of Mr. Consul Swinhoe's letter to me, praising Lieutenant Gurdon's prompt action on Mr. Gibson's requisition, and describing the salutary results likely to follow it.

I regret to find that Mr. Gibson was not acting on confidential instructions from your Excellency when he assumed the grave responsibility of urging Lieutenant Gurdon to seize the defences of Amping and Fort of Zelandia as a material guarantee for the fulfilment of our claims.

Most naval officers would have acted as Lieutenant Gurdon did; their general instructions are to cordially co-operate with Her Majesty's Consuls. A requisition plainly stating that the bare existence of British subjects depended on the seizure of the defences of Amping appears to have been eagerly welcomed by a young officer, who considered that the opportunity was afforded him of winning his promotion by a brilliant exploit.

A mistake has been committed,—it would be well to prevent all prospect of its repetition.

Since I assumed this command Her Majesty's Consuls more than once have made requisitions to Lieutenants of gun-boats inconsistent with strict international law towards the Chinese.

On a station where a considerable interval may elapse before reference can be made to your Excellency or myself, it appears desirable that a clearly defined restriction should be placed on the power of Her Majesty's Consuls to request a naval officer to commit an act of war.

May I, therefore, request an expression of your Excellency's views on this subject, stating the limits within which commanding officers should act on Consular requisitions; and you may rely on my taking measures to prevent precipitate action on the part of over zealous officers who rejoice in being associated with Consuls full of fight.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

No. 17.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 23, 1869.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of yesterday, inclosing copies of a despatch from Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, with his correspondence with Sir Rutherford Alcock, respecting the late affair at Taiwan in Formosa, and stating the substance of an instruction which, with Lord Clarendon's concurrence, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty propose to address to Sir Henry Keppel in reply; and I am to request that you will acquaint their Lordships that Lord Clarendon concurs in the proposed instruction.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 23.)

My Lord,

Peking, February 5, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th of October,* and the progress of negotiations for the arrangement of differences at Taiwan, I have now the honour to inclose copies of farther despatches from Mr. Gibson in charge, and also of a correspondence with the Prince of Kung on the subject.

The difficulties in Formosa with the local authorities seem to have very summarily terminated by Mr. Gibson requiring Lieutenant Commander Gurdon, as the Senior Officer present, with two gun-boats only, to seize and hold Fort Zelandia at Amping, which is the port of Taiwan, on the 21st of October, as "necessary to the very existence of British life and interests;" as an immediate consequence of which, it seems, full and satisfactory measures of redress were formally acceded to by the Imperial Commissioner on the 24th, although four days previously he had treated all Mr. Gibson's complaints as matters of no consequence, and positively refused to take any step whatever.

As far as I can gather from Mr. Gibson's despatches, the cause for his precipitate action was the announcement of the Commissioner that he was about to return to the mainland in a day or two, without removing the Taoutae, or otherwise providing for the security of the foreign community, whose lives and property had alike been exposed to great danger from the action of the local authorities themselves.

I had not contemplated, as your Lordship will have seen by the instructions forwarded to Mr. Gibson, and my correspondence with the Admiral and Mr. Swinhoe, copies of which were inclosed in my despatch, the necessity for acts of open hostility, and certainly had given no authority to the officer in charge to take any such measures. On the contrary, I was desirous that an imposing squadron of at least four or five vessels should be sent as the certain means of averting any collision, satisfied in my own mind that the mere presence of such a force would suffice to secure a prompt and satisfactory settlement of our just demands for redress. The effect for such a demonstration at Nanking had abundantly proved the efficacy of this mode of attaining results without any actual employment of force, and fully warranted my calculating on an equally satisfactory end at Formosa.

Mr. Gibson's precipitation prevented the combination agreed upon with the Admiral, with a view to an equally complete but more peaceable solution of our difficulties, taking effect. And it is the more to be deplored as life has been lost in the collision that ensued with the crew of the gun-boats, several Chinese soldiers having been killed and wounded; and fresh complications have arisen from this cause, and the equally unauthorized act of Lieutenant Gurdon in demanding 10,000 dollars for expenses and prize-money as a ransom for the port, after the destruction of all the arms and munitions of war found in the fort, by his order, and the blowing up of the magazines.

I am naturally very reluctant to pronounce a harsh judgment against junior officers, either civil or military, who have erred by the excess of zeal and impatience rather than any deliberate design of exceeding their powers. Nor have I yet learned, in answer to my despatch to Mr. Swinhoe, what Mr. Gibson may be able to state in further justification of his apparently rash and unauthorized proceedings. It is possible there may have been reasons not yet before me, and imminent danger to life and property, which suggested the steps taken as the only ones available for security. Mr. Gibson's strange phraseology may cover some such peril. But so far as any statement of facts yet received goes, I am bound to say this conclusion is not borne out.

At the same time, it must be borne in mind that in Formosa, an island peopled by aborigines, who to this day both kill and eat their enemies, with thousands of Chinese colonists only a few degrees more civilized or less savage, under the government of local officials who are so little above a state of barbarism themselves that they had no scruple in placing an ambuscade of armed men to intercept and kill a Consul and naval officer proceeding to the Magistrate's place of residence on a peaceful mission, and thought the best mode of preventing a merchant from recovering property of which he had been despoiled, was to send people to shoot him down—there is enough in such conditions to demoralize all diplomacy, if not to justify a resort to reprisals and acts of hostility not contemplated by Vattel. The tension of mind produced by such exceptional relations, under constant menace of danger from the lawless action of Chinese officials, bound by no obligations of international comity or Treaty, is eminently calculated to mislead a junior officer and throw him off his balance; and it would be hard, and scarcely just, to visit upon his head the whole responsibility of the consequences.

These are considerations not likely to suggest themselves to Chinese authorities at

* See "China Papers, No. 2 (1869)," No. 14.

asking; and I was not much surprised therefore, under these circumstances, to receive from the Prince of Kung a strongly-worded remonstrance, in which he protested against all Mr. Gibson's proceedings, and demanded satisfaction and redress for acts of hostility committed on the territory of a friendly power in time of peace. Nor could I fittingly take umbrage at the scarcely veiled threat, conveyed in the concluding paragraph, of an appeal to Her Majesty's Government direct, through the Chinese Mission now in Europe, and to the other Treaty Powers through the Foreign Representatives at Peking, if full satisfaction were denied.

Accordingly, in my reply, I did not hesitate to inform the Prince that, if I did not at once disavow Mr. Gibson's acts, seeing that I had not received any despatches giving the details or reasons he might allege in his justification, I had no difficulty in stating that my instructions to press for a settlement had not authorized any acts of hostility, and that he and the naval officer would alike be held responsible for what they had done.

I also added that if the statement made by the Viceroy of Fukien and Chekiang and the Governor of Fukien, in their joint Memorial to the Throne, that Lieutenant Gurdon had exacted a sum of 10,000 dollars, for war expenses and prize money, proved to be correct, I would undertake that the money should be promptly returned.

I answered in this sense the more readily that I was aware the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamên, with the Prince at its head, were themselves on their trial, in a certain sense, before the Court and the other Boards, from the course taken by the High Authorities of Fukien in addressing their Memorial complaining of these acts direct to the Throne.

It was necessary that the Prince should at once be able to show that, if any wrong had really been committed by subordinate officers of a foreign Power, in violation of Treaty or international law and usage among civilized States, Her Majesty's Representative here would be prepared, after due investigation, to give satisfaction, and, as far as possible, to afford redress for any injury inflicted.

At the same time I deemed it right to point out to his Highness, for the information of the Emperor and his Council, that, however I might deplore any action which had led to a serious loss of life, the chief blame, if not all the responsibility, rested on those who, by a persistent violation of Treaties, repeated acts of violence, and denial of justice, making life and property insecure, had rendered a collision almost inevitable; and that the real authors of this regrettable occurrence were the High Officers of Fukien and Chekiang, in not carrying out their instructions received from the Yamên to remove the Taoutae and afford redress. Had they done so, no collision or conflict would have taken place.

It is my purpose, when in a position to answer these complaints more fully, to return to this feature of the case, and fix them with the responsibility of disobeying their orders, and thus provoking a conflict which might and would otherwise undoubtedly have been averted.

The charge against the local authorities can be fully sustained by evidence of violence and injustice of the most flagrant character on the part of the Chinese officials, which the last nine months preceding has continuously supplied; and, in addition, it will be easy to show that, whatever may be the desire of the two Governments to live in peace and maintain none but the most friendly relations with each other, such results are not possible if the Provincial Authorities are allowed not only systematically to violate the most important of Treaty rights and palpably connive at acts of spoliation and murder, such as have characterized the course of affairs at Formosa almost from the beginning, and with increasing frequency and atrocity during the past year, but to disregard the orders sent to them from Peking after engagements have been entered into with a Foreign Minister. It is, in truth, clear that the Central Government must find means to compel a greater respect for their own orders on the part of their local Authorities throughout the Provinces, wherever foreigners are found, or foreign Powers will be driven to one of two alternatives in self-defence. They must either devise such local means of pressure as shall control and coerce malfaisant and corrupt officials into good behaviour, or hold the Imperial Government responsible for unredressed wrongs at the ports and elsewhere in a much more direct and stringent manner than has yet been the practice as a general rule. The action, consequent upon the conduct of local authorities at Canton and Takow, which led to the three wars, were exceptions; and as regards the last, what took place at Takow could not be considered the act of any local officer, but of the Government itself.

The last alternative is, no doubt, more consonant with Treaty relations and international law than the first; but it is also more damaging to the Emperor's power to govern the Empire, and more costly to the foreign Power resorting to it. Some shorter and less disastrous mode of settling local wrongs and disputes at distant ports is as much to be desired in the interest of the Chinese nation and Government as in that of foreigners; even

though it should be less strictly accordant with international law and usage. Against the disadvantages that attach to local action, even after appeal shall have been made in vain to the Government at Peking, and the objections in principle to which all such extreme courses must be open, both Chinese and foreign Powers may, wisely perhaps, set as a counterbalance the avoidance of accumulative wrong, leading to the necessity of a war, and entailing costly expenditure on the one side, and a perilous loss of authority and prestige on the other.

We need not look to Vattel or Grotius for any sanction to such exceptional action, for the simple reason that they and all other writers on international law deal with principles in their application to civilized States, recognizing a mutual obligation, and governed by similar, or at least analogous, systems of jurisprudence and polity. But, when dealing with Oriental races and States, ignorant of all the conditions and principles of European polity, a special adaptation of those principles is required to meet the wholly exceptional character of the situation caused by a forced intercourse between races holding totally different views of moral obligation and national policy. The broad principles of justice, of right and wrong which underlie the international code of nations, must be respected everywhere by civilized States; but an over-scrupulous pedantry in adherence to the rules deduced from these, and forming the system known in Europe as the Law of Nations, in dealing with an Asiatic race like the Chinese, is only calculated to do mischief, and bring on the very evils it is intended to avert.

Some special modification of rules and principles of international law, as this is understood and recognized by European States, is required in the interest of peace and justice. Local authorities must not be allowed by persistent misrule and violation of Treaties to bring on their country the horrors of war as the sole means of redressing the wrong. And the only effective means of preventing this, in default of a Central Government with adequate power, is to make them feel a personal responsibility for their acts such as their own Government ought, but under present conditions seems quite unable to enforce. The knowledge that sooner or later, if justice is denied, and instructions from Peking disregarded, to the injury of foreigners, they will have themselves to deal with a foreign Power they can neither defy nor resist, will soon lead to a radical reform in the course of action, and teach them to respect Treaty obligations for their own sake, if they care nothing either for Treaties or the orders of their own Government. Such a policy, if carried out with judgment and moderation by the Treaty Powers, will act beneficially at both ends of the line. The Peking Government will be disposed to take more stringent measures than they otherwise would with their provincial officers to enforce respect for the rights and interests of foreigners, while the officials themselves will become more circumspect not to provoke the inevitable issue of conflict with a foreign Power; and all parties will gain largely thereby.

Hitherto the course of affairs has been only too truly described by the Memorialists from the ports. When any wrong or injustice is suffered by a foreigner, for which there is no appeal to a public court of justice and a written code of laws—if the Chinese local authorities are not moved, as is too often the case, by the Consul's representations—the only recourse is a reference to the Minister at Peking; and then commences an interminable series of references backwards and forwards,—a seesaw of correspondence on both sides between the ports and the capital, and no final solution is ever arrived at. It may safely be affirmed that such is the common experience of all the foreign Representatives. I am assured there is no one of these who cannot point to numerous cases which have been so treated for a succession of years, despite their best efforts to secure a better result.

Such experience leads infallibly to a conviction that where Treaties have been imposed by force upon an unwilling Government, as all with China have been, they can only be upheld by similar means. The diplomatic instrument has no binding power with Chinese rulers when its stipulations may be evaded with impunity, or whenever it is believed that the force that imposed them is no longer extant or available. Diplomacy in such circumstances means "armed reason." As Carlyle in his quaint style remarks, "Diplomacy is clouds; beating your enemies is sea and land," and the only evidence of power, or title to respect, a true Oriental freely recognizes. And in order that foreign Powers may not have to resort to such rude instruments for proving their title, it behoves them to find means of preventing accumulative violations of Treaty, since continued impunity brings with it a conviction of weakness. For, as I have said on a former occasion, "it is weakness, or the suspicion of it, which invariably provokes aggression, and, with Eastern races, is a far more fruitful cause of bad faith and danger than either force or the abuse of it." The desire to avoid complications and wars in the far East should suggest, not an unreasoning recoil from the assertion of Treaty rights from fear of the troubles it may bring, but a stedfast

adherence to such conditions of intercourse as experience has proved to be best calculated in the end to insure respect for engagements. This, at least, is the lesson which a life spent in these regions has most strongly impressed on my mind. And, apart from the question of policy as a means to an end, necessity imposes a duty of self-preservation on the principle recognized by the laws of man, which were certainly designed for Eastern races, where it is said, "Let an indolent monarch cease to punish, and the stronger would end by wasting the weaker."

It was with these convictions, and my past experience of the hopelessness of obtaining any real redress from the authorities at Nanking—even after a perfectly satisfactory understanding was come to with the Tsungli Yamèn, and the assurance that the necessary instructions should be sent to the Viceroy—and with the farther conviction that continued impunity to those concerned in the outrages at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang would be full of peril to life and property at other places as well as to all our interests in China, that I determined to take such measures, in concert with the Naval Commander-in-chief, as should leave the Viceroy no choice, and very little inclination to disregard his orders from Peking to do prompt justice.

The result, which was never doubtful, went far to confirm the correctness of my views. And a similar result, with the same tactics, would as unquestionably have been attained at Taiwan, had the officers in charge there been less impatient and waited for the presence of a Senior Officer and a squadron.

Two conclusions, I think, are to be drawn from the history of the transactions at each place. First, that well-combined measures of pressure, showing by unmistakeable signs both the will and the immediate power to enforce, if need be, demands for redress persistently denied, after reference to Peking and promise of action from the Government there, will never fail, if brought to bear judiciously against the local authorities, however high their position. His Excellency Tsêng Kwo-fan, the Viceroy of Nanking, furnished a signal example of the efficacy of such means; for not only is his influence great, but, in his now celebrated Memorial to the Throne, he was the first to recommend resistance to the foreign Powers if they pressed any unpalatable demands, and, therefore, had every motive which an officer in high position could have for making a show at least of the virtue of that resistance he was so ready to recommend to his Government; but he made no sign, and succumbed without an effort to save his personal credit.

The course of affairs at Taiwan proves quite as strikingly, perhaps, if not more so, the efficacy of such means, because here one of the essential conditions of success was wanting,—the presence of a force practically irresistible. But untoward collision and loss of life was the penalty of a disregard of such condition, and leads to the second conclusion, namely, the danger of unauthorized action, and the necessity of strictly prohibiting all action of this nature by Consular officers on their own responsibility, and without specific instructions from the Minister.

Thus guarded, there is little to fear from any abuse of power, and much to hope from its discretionary exercise being entrusted to the Representative at Peking, should necessity arise. A reference to the Home Government demands nearly six months, and, with large interests at stake, such a delay might, in many cases, be disastrous, if not altogether fatal, to the position and security of foreigners in China.

I am not sorry, with these views, to profit by the present conjuncture to request definitive instructions, or some expression of opinion, for my guidance in any future contingency of similar character. And, in the meantime, I defer any final report on Mr. Gibson's responsibility until I can receive his reply to my despatch of the 29th of January, addressed to Mr. Swinhoe, who was directed to return to his post, and by so doing supersede Mr. Gibson, and relieve him of his charge.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Taiwan, Takow Office, November 25, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have nominally taken possession of Fort Zelandia, and the town of Amping, as a reprisal, on the 22nd; and as a consequence, upon Tuesday the 24th, our complications were settled, that is, as far as a promise can go. I shall hold Amping till the Taoutae Liang, the district magistrate of Fung-shan, and the Ting of Le-chiang is dismissed, and my conditions are settled. The criminal cases, civil

cases, and political cases, with the camphor case, will all be performed according to promise, by Tseng Ta-jin, the Amoy Taoutae, who has been sent over here as a Commissioner by the Governor-General of Fukien. Ellis and Co. are indemnified in 6,000 dollars, Dr. Maxwell in 1,167 dollars, the Catholic Fathers in 2,000 dollars, and Ellis and Co.'s compradore in the value of his property. The camphor monopoly is abolished in the Island of Formosa, and British subjects and their Chinese agents can buy that article, store it, and do whatever they like with it, in accordance with the Treaty of Tien-tsin, the native authorities placing no obstacles in their way in the interior, or in any of the ports forbidden to foreign vessels. The missionaries have power to teach, heal, preach, and build mission-houses, and their converts shall not be interfered with. Dr. Maxwell goes up to Taiwan at once; Mr. Ritchie to Pitow; Dr. Maxwell's accusers shall be tried before Tseng Ta-jin and me; three criminals, the three men who stand at the head of the district magistrate's office of Fung-shan, are arrested, and they will be punished before some one appointed by me. All the other criminal cases are being taken up. These matters, and the whole of the matters in my despatch, are settled, but simply on the promise of Tseng Ta-jin, and that promise must be performed before I can announce to your Excellency that the affairs are definitely settled. I inclose the despatch I gave Tseng Ta-jin, for your perusal.

Tseng Ta-jin landed at Amping on the 8th instant, and spent a week with Liang Taoutae. He came down to Takow on Monday the 16th, and I gave him a conference on Tuesday the 17th. Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Manson, the agents of Messrs. Ellis and Co., and of Messrs. Tait and Co., and the Senior Naval Officer, accompanied by Lieutenant Johnson, R.N., were present. Tseng Ta-jin evidently thought our embarrassments as of no moment. I asked him for the removal of the Taoutae, the District Magistrate, and the Ting of Lo-chiang, and he simply laughed off the whole matter. He seemed to be without any definite power to settle our embarrassments; said that they were of no importance, and even hinted that it was contrary to my duty to bring forward the charges and conditions which I have laid before your Excellency.

I then considered what it was best to do; and I came to the conclusion that it was absolutely necessary nominally to take and hold the Fort of Zelandia, and the town of Amping, in order to bring Tseng Ta-jin to understand the urgent importance of our complications, and as a basis of any further advance upon Taiwan.

I, therefore, requested the Senior Naval Officer to take action. He was off Amping on Saturday morning the 21st. We landed at 3 o'clock; walked over the fortress, and found the doors all locked; the soldiers and their commandant had all removed; and we took possession of the fort and the ramparts of the town without any opposition.

I returned on the 22nd; and on the 23rd informed Tseng Ta-jin of what I had done. He requested a conference on Tuesday the 24th, at 11 o'clock A.M. We discussed the whole matter up till 3 o'clock P.M., and finally settled everything. He promised to fulfil all my conditions; to run up to Foo-chow, return with letters of recall for the Taoutae, the district magistrate, and the Ting of Lo-chiang, I to hold the fort till they were removed and my conditions fulfilled. At this conference Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Manson, the agents of Messrs. Tait and Co., and of Messrs. Ellis and Co., were present, and also Lieutenant Johnson, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard."

I humbly beg your Excellency to approve of my proceedings, as these are of a very responsible character.

I would not have taken these steps unless I had conceived them to be absolutely necessary.

At our first conference all my charges and conditions, which were clearly just, were scouted at by Tseng Ta-jin, and I failed to get him to understand their importance and their justice. The taking of Amping, though only in fact ostensible, was enough to cause him to promise to settle everything.

This despatch is a mere outline, and in a day or two I will write your Excellency at length.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to Sir R. Alcock, December 14, 1868.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to Tseng, Taoutae of Amoy.

Sir,

Taiwan, Takow Office, November 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you an abstract of the crimes and wrongs of Liang Taoutae and his subordinates, on which their removal is demanded, and the conditions I request, in accordance with the Treaty, from the local Government of Taiwan.

First. The crimes and wrongs of Liang Taoutae.

1. The abrogation of the last sentence of the VIIth Article of the Treaty. (Insert the sentence.)

I subjoin an outline of proof, but the full evidence is either in despatches with which you are already acquainted, or based upon the statements of indubitable witnesses.

(1.) When I arrived here on the 12th day of the 5th moon (July 1), I sent Liang Taoutae a despatch announcing my arrival as Consul, and on the 25th day of the same moon (14th July) I received a despatch from the Taoutae, refusing to recognize me as Consul; and it was not till Lord Charles Scott, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," came over that Liang Taoutae recognized me; but the despatch in which he recognizes me I consider is a standing insult both to Lord Charles Scott and to me.

(2.) I, in company with Lord Charles Scott, waited on the Taoutae on the 12th day of the 7th moon (29th August) in his office; Liang Taoutae put a question to me, I immediately answered it, and my answer seemed to excite a strange rage in the Taoutae's bosom, as he assaulted me twice, and then, in a boiling passion, withdrew without ever apologizing to Lord Charles Scott, who was his guest, to his private apartments.

(3.) The District Magistrate of Fung-shan refused, notwithstanding my request upon every principle of justice, to receive or to see me; and Liang Taoutae approves and upholds his determination.

(4.) The Taoutae's despatches are couched in the most insulting and offensive terms.

2. The abrogation of the whole of the VIIIth Article. (Insert the VIIIth Article.)

(1) The Christian religion, Protestant and Catholic, is persecuted; (2) British missionaries' lives are endangered; (3) converts are murdered; (4) converts are stoned; (5) their houses destroyed; (6) their property plundered; (7) the mission houses are pulled down.

I have asked Liang Taoutae again and again to put a stop to those evils and wrongs; but up to this time he has refused.

3. The abrogation of the first paragraph of the IXth Article. (Insert the paragraph.)

(1.) The Taoutae will not countersign a single passport in the same manner as Wu Taoutae did.

(2.) He refuses to grant passports to trade out of the two Treaty ports.

4. The abrogation of the whole of the XIth Article. (Insert the Article.)

(1.) The local Government have attempted to levy local taxes (leking) upon merchandise while still in foreigners' hands.

(2.) British merchants cannot proceed to and fro at pleasure with their vessels and merchandize, as the officials want (1) a mast duty; and (2) are intent upon levying local taxes on goods that have already paid Tariff rates; and (3) a British subject was forced away from Taiwan for no fault of his, to the great detriment of his occupation.

5. The abrogation of the whole of the XIIIth Article. (Insert the Article.)

(1) The local Government places restrictions upon Chinese subjects lawfully serving British subjects.

(2.) The local Government persecutes Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s and Messrs. Tait and Co.'s compradores.

(3.) The local Government persecutes Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s people at Wu-chai.

(4.) The local Government does all this without ever applying to the Consul under whose jurisdiction the agents of British firms are.

6. The abrogation of the whole of the XIVth Article. (Insert the Article.)

(1.) British subjects, the local Government declares, shall not hire whatever boats they please for the transport of goods.

(2.) That the number of boats shall not only be limited, but that there shall not be one.

(3.) The same with regard to coolies engaged in the carrying of goods.

7. The abrogation of the first sentence and the last of the XVth Article. (Insert the Article.)

The Chinese criminals have not been apprehended and punished according to the laws of China.

8. The abrogation of the last sentence of the XVIIth Article. (Insert the sentence.)

A very great number of crimes and disputes have taken place in the Taiwan Consular District. The Consul had no means of settling amicably these disputes. Over and over again the Consul requested the Chinese local authorities to give him their assistance, and over and over again they have refused.

9. The abrogation of the whole of the XVIIIth Article. (Insert the Article.)

Insult, violence, robbery, and wrongs have been perpetrated upon British subjects. The Consul has over and over again requested the Taoutae to apprehend and punish the guilty parties, but he has never received any satisfactory answer.

10. The abrogation of the whole of the XXIVth Article. (Insert the Article.)

I may prove this charge by a reference to the XIth Article under the 4th charge.

11. The abrogation of the last sentence of the LIInd Article. (Insert the sentence.)

(1) Lord Charles Scott, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," was grievously insulted by the Taoutae two or three times; (2) Lieutenant Johnson, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," was grossly insulted by the Chentai and by the District Magistrate of Fung-shan, which insults the Taoutae upholds.

12. The abrogation of the whole of the LIVth Article.

This Article has been abrogated by the Taoutae altogether.

I append a list of proceedings, pursued by the local government, of which the Taoutae is at the head, which not only infringe the Articles of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, but which are thoroughly aggressive:—

(1.) Insults to Lord Charles Scott.

(2.) Assaults upon and insults to the Acting Consul.

(3.) Insults to Lieutenant Johnson.

(4.) Orders for the native boats at Amping not to land the guard.

(5.) Orders for the chair bearers not to fulfil their engagements.

(6.) Planting an armed party inside and outside the city of Pitow.

(7.) Making malicious, scandalous, impudent, and mendacious charges against British subjects.

(8.) Shooting on Mr. Pickering, a British subject, a Malay, and Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s people.

(9.) Illegally confiscating the property in Taiwan of Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s compradore without applying to the Consul under whose jurisdiction that compradore, belonging to a British firm, is.

Second. The crimes and wrongs of Liang Taoutae's subordinates.

(1.) Lin, the District Magistrate of Fung-shan.

On the 6th day of the 8th moon (21st September) the District Magistrate of Fung-shan filled the city of Pitow with an armed force, and planted ambuscades outside the city to prevent the Senior Naval Officer and the Consul visiting him. The object I had in visiting him originally was this:—

Liang Taoutae explicitly promised to Lord Charles Scott and to me nearly four weeks before that he would give orders that the Chinese criminals under the jurisdiction of the District Magistrate of Fung-shan should instantly be arrested, and I, knowing the unvaracity of most of the Taoutae's promises and assertions, proposed to go to Pitow and ask the District Magistrate whether Liang Taoutae had ever given him such orders. I wrote a letter on the 2nd of the 8th moon (17th September), I think, informing the District Magistrate that, in company with the Senior Naval Officer, I should visit him on the 6th day of the same moon (21st September); and on the 4th day (19th September) I received a letter from him, dissuading me from coming. I also received two despatches on the two following days from him, containing charges, which he himself indorsed, against Dr. Maxwell, a good man, and Kao-chang, of the most horrid and barbarous crime of murder; and when I was going to fetch Dr. Maxwell and Kao-chang up to his office to confront their accusers, and that we might examine the matter clearly and decidedly, the District Magistrate filled the city of Pitow with an armed force, and planted ambuscades outside, to prevent the Senior Naval Officer, me, and our guard from entering the city.

(2.) The crimes and wrongs of Kuo, the Lo-chiang Ting.

The Lo-chiang Ting virulently persecuted Ellis and Co.'s people at Wu-chai; came down with an armed force to arrest the proprietor of Ellis and Co.'s hired house at Wu-chai, and, when he could not find him, apprehended his boy at school. He fired upon Mr. Pickering, a British subject, who had been sent to Wu-chai by the directions of the late Acting

Consul, a Malay in the employ of Ellis and Co., and Ellis and Co.'s agents and servants at Wu-chai.

Now I demand, in the name of every principle of justice, that these three Officers, viz., Liang Taoutae, Lin, the District Magistrate of Fung-shan, and Kuo, the Lo-chiang Ting be dismissed with disgrace. I might add more proofs and extend them at much greater length; but as you are anxious to get away I have merely given you an outline of the most important.

I add three lists of cases for your information:—

Criminal Cases.—1. That Lin-Hai be severely punished before a person appointed by me.

2. That (1) and (2) and (3) Hwang-Hsi, if proved guilty, should suffer death; and their abettors should be severely punished, before a person appointed by me.

3. That Jan-a-yung should be severely punished before a person appointed by me.

4. That (1) Wang-Ming, (2) Lu-Feng, and (3) Wang-ko or Wang-ugan should be severely punished before a person appointed by me; and that their abettors (1) Hwang-nau, (2) Hwang-su, (3) Wang-si, (4) Hsi-Tsai, (5) the son of Ping-Hang the Ti-pao, (6) Chan-ma-Kwan, (7) Tien-Tai, (8) Chin-Sin, (9) Sin-tzu-chwang, (10) Wang-Tung, (11) Wang-Tzu, (12) Chau-Chuan, (13) Kan-Tioa, (14) Tsu the leper, (15) Hsiao-shi-sheng, (16) Chang-Wang-tzu, (17) Lin-Pau, (18) Lin-sheng, (19) Lin-Hwang, (20) a partner of Chien-Chuang who keeps a rice shop, (21) Wang-Pau, (22) Miao-Li, should be bamboosed and cangued.

5. That the accusers of Dr. Maxwell and Kao-Chang be tried, and, if found guilty, be most severely punished before a person appointed by me. I have already asked for the degradation of the Chi-Hsien of Fung-shan, who, I believe, knows that such an accusation is a falsehood; but I also demand that the persons who made the charges be punished with the utmost rigour of the Law.

Civil Cases.—1. That 6,000 dollars be paid within the space of 24 hours as indemnity for the camphor officially and illegally removed from Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s hired house at Wu-chai, or 6,000 dollars worth of camphor be restored to Messrs. Ellis and Co.

2. That 1,167 dollars be paid within the space of twenty-four hours to Dr. Maxwell, as indemnity for the destruction of the Mission property.

3. That 2,000 dollars be paid within the space of twenty-four hours as indemnity to Catholic fathers for the destruction of their property.

4. That Messrs. Ellis and Co.'s compradore have his property returned as it was before his house was broken into, or damages given him within the space of twenty-four hours to the exact amount of money and other property removed.

Political Cases.—1. That a suitable number (say 25) of Proclamations be issued, embodying the first paragraph of the IXth Article of the Treaty, the whole of the XIth Article, the whole of the XIIth, and the whole of the XIVth. That these Proclamations should guarantee to British merchants travelling under passports, which passports are to be countersigned by the Taoutae and respected, and the Chinese agents of British merchants, liberty to trade in camphor both in the interior of this Island, and at coast ports forbidden to foreign vessels; and that these Proclamations should abolish any notifications issued hitherto, ordering natives under the most severe punishment; viz., death, not to sell camphor to foreign merchants.

2. That a suitable number (say 25) of Proclamations be issued in favour of the Christian religion, Protestant and Catholic, embodying the VIIth Article of the Treaty; these Proclamations to involve—

(1.) That the poisonous or noxious drugs which idle report states that the missionaries used, is but a piece of mendacious gossip;

(2.) That the authorities will very severely punish any person who utters such lying affirmations; and

(3.) That converted natives, not offending against the laws, are not to be persecuted or interfered with.

3. That a suitable number (say 10) of Proclamations to be issued embodying the XVIIth Article of the Treaty, and stating that whenever such cases arise between a British subject or their agents and a Chinese subject, so that the Consul cannot settle them amicably, he shall request the assistance of the Chinese authorities, and that these authorities shall come.

All these conditions are fair and just. Liang Taoutae and his subordinates simply laugh at them. I think you, as an honest, intelligent and straightforward officer, will very

much regret their procedure, and I request you to report the gross malfeasance of the local Government of Formosa.

I shall conclude by four remarks—

1. I have written this despatch to you, and will show you all the documents that I have in my possession upon this subject simply for your information, but you have come over here with very defective powers, utterly incapable of suspending even for a moment the Taoutae's or any other officer's commission. It was on account of your defective powers that I refused to discuss with you subsidiary affairs, not on account of your requiring proof of Liang Taoutae's misdeeds. Your desiring evidence of those wrongs of which I accuse Liang Taoutae, I consider as very fair and impartial; and I beg to submit this despatch, the office despatches, and a host of witnesses, as indisputable proof.

2. By writing you this despatch, and showing you all my other despatches simply for your information, you are not to assume that I have made any promise, or will fail to carry out my intentions.

3. The wrongs inflicted by Liang Taoutae on British subjects are of eight or nine months' duration. I have been very patient under these afflictions; but those proceedings must come to an end very shortly. Can you not on your own responsibility suspend Liang's commission?

4. I must inform you of one error that you made in our conference yesterday. You seemed to assert that British subjects are involved in quarrels with the people generally. Nothing could be further from the fact. British subjects have no complaints to make against the people generally, but they have loud complaints to make against Liang Taoutae and the rest of the officials, their servants, their soldiers, their militia, and their hangers-on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to the Senior Naval Officer at Taiwan, November 20, 1868.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 18.

Lieutenant and Commander Gurdon to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir,

"Algerine," Amping, November 22, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, having received your despatch of the 20th instant, you having come on board, I weighed the same night at 10:30 p.m., in company with Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," and arrived off Fort Zelandia the next morning. During the day I landed the marines and the boats' crews of the two vessels. Leaving them at the pier, I proceeded, with Lieutenant Johnson and yourself, to reconnoitre the place, but I found Fort Zelandia in such an utter state of ruin that it would not have been prudent, with the limited force at my disposal, to occupy it permanently; the buildings of the village affording also wretched accommodation for the men, I informed you of the same, and it was determined that we should hold Amping from the ship (the town being within easy range of my pivot-gun), giving notice, at the same time, to the military mandarin to leave the place. The forces accordingly were re-embarked, you leaving for Takow, next morning, in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," leaving me here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. GURDON.

Inclosure 6 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to Lieutenant and Commander Gurdon.

Sir, *Taiwan, Takow Office, December 3, 1868.*
 I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, and beg to inform you that I quite approve of your determination to hold Fort Zelandia and the town of Amping from the ship.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 18.

Lieutenant and Commander Gurdon to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir, *"Algerine," Amping, December 2, 1868.*
 I HAVE the honour to inform you that, according to your wishes, I boarded the man-of-war lorch, lying inside of the bar, on Sunday afternoon, and informed her that she must move outside the bar before 6 o'clock that night, or I should have to take possession of her. I then proceeded on shore and visited the Heptai, informing him that we had taken possession of Amping, and that, consequently, he must leave the town within the space of twenty-four hours.

The Heptai at first declined to listen to any arrangement of the sort; but on my informing him that if he did not evacuate the town within the time named by me, I should have to take him prisoner, he said that he would go to Taiwan-foo for orders, and let me know the result next morning.

The same morning a furious gale from the northward set in, preventing my communication with the shore until Tuesday forenoon.

On Tuesday, at 11 A.M., I proceeded inside the bar and informed the man-of-war lorch that, unless she was outside the bar by 3 P.M., I should take possession of her as a prize.

The lorch not having moved at the time named, I sent my boats in, manned and armed, took possession of her and moved her outside the bar, anchoring her close to me, sending all her crew on shore, retaining only the captain, and two men to attend on him, on board, placing a guard on board her at the same time.

During the afternoon a deputation of merchants from Taiwan-foo came on board to request me to allow the Heptai to remain in Amping; but I informed them that unless they would deposit a sum of 35,000 dollars with me, as a guarantee that all your conditions with Tseng Taoutae were carried out, by my orders, I should be compelled to take possession of Amping the next afternoon: they left, saying that they would inform me next morning if they could deposit with me the sum required.

The next day at noon I received trustworthy intelligence that 500 men had been poured into Amping that morning, and that the Chinese officials were busy at work mounting guns on the fortifications.

I immediately sent a despatch to the Heptai stating that, unless he sent the troops out of the town and ceased mounting guns on the fortifications within an hour of the receipt by him of my despatch, that I should be compelled to open fire on the town; at the same time sending notice to the inhabitants to abandon the town, as I intended to open fire at 3 P.M.

No answer having come, at 4 o'clock I weighed and commenced a slow fire from my pivot-gun of shot and shells, confining my fire as much as possible to the batteries that were being armed. At 5-20 P.M. I ceased firing and anchored. At about 7 P.M. I received a despatch from you, informing me that you had arrived at an arrangement with Tseng Taoutae, solely on account of my holding Amping, and that the British forces were to continue to occupy Amping until the agreement were ratified by Vice-Royal Government of Fukien.

I immediately saw of what consequence it was that I should be in actual possession of Amping, and the disastrous effects it would have on the negotiations pending if the Chinese put Amping in such a state of defence, as might defy the small force at my disposal. I accordingly came to the conclusion to storm the town of Amping the same night.

At 10-30 P.M. I left the ship in the gig and cutter, the gig containing one officer and eleven men, the cutter, one officer and twelve men, making a total of two officers and twenty-three men.

I landed on the beach about two miles below the town, through a heavy surf, in which, notwithstanding every precaution, the gig was swamped and sunk.

After forming on the beach I advanced on the town, feeling my way with great caution, throwing out skirmishers, and taking advantage of every inequality of the ground to conceal my advance until I got within 800 yards of the fortifications, when, seeing that the enemy was on the alert, I took advantage of a steep bank and determined to wait until the moon had gone down.

At 2:40 A.M., the moon having gone down, I advanced again and succeeded in penetrating into the heart of the town without being discovered, I then managed to obtain a guide, and made for the Heptai's yamèn. On breaking into the Heptai's yamèn we discovered a guard-room full of soldiers, in number about fifty, who immediately barricaded the door and extinguished the lights; however, port-fires being at hand they were immediately lighted; the door was burst in, when, notwithstanding all my personal endeavours, and those of an interpreter I had with me, assuring them that their lives would be spared, and they would be allowed to go free if they laid down their arms, they would not, and reluctantly, in self-defence, I was obliged to give the order to fire. The Chinese soldiers succeeded in breaking down a door in their rear, and escaped, suffering, however, a severe loss of eleven killed and about six wounded.

I then marched to the Custom-house, halting there till daylight before I advanced further, posting sentries on Fort Zelandia commanding the town, and in the neighbouring streets.

I managed to write a despatch here informing you of what had taken place, requesting you to proceed here in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," whom I ordered up from Takow immediately to reinforce me; this despatch I succeeded in getting conveyed to you by offering a heavy bribe to a native courier.

Directly it was daylight I concentrated my men and advanced to take possession of the lines—facing toward Taiwan-foo.

I had only just reached the lines, when I observed a large body of the enemy advancing to the attack, led on by a Mandarin carrying a yellow flag.

I immediately lined the embankment and opened a heavy fire on the enemy, who stood and returned the fire for about five minutes, when they broke and fled towards Taiwan-foo, sustaining a loss, as I have since ascertained, of six killed and about ten wounded. I posted sentries and established guards round the entrenchments, barricading the gate leading to Taiwan-foo, and withdrawing the planks of it. During the afternoon, a deputation of the chief merchants of Taiwan-foo arrived, informing me that they had been sent by Liang Taoutae of Taiwan, and requesting to know what my terms were, as they were empowered by Liang to grant any demand I preferred.

I informed them that I required a sum of 40,000 Mexican dollars, to be paid over to me before noon the next day, as a guarantee that all your demands were fulfilled, the sum in question not to be returned until your agreement was ratified by the Vice-Royal Government of Fukien; in case this demand of mine was not complied with, I informed the deputation that I should advance on Taiwan-foo.

During the night I was informed that my demand of a guarantee of 40,000 dollars would be complied with, they being guaranteed to be deposited at my head-quarters not latter than 4 P.M. on Friday the 27th instant.

At daylight on Friday morning, Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" arrived from Takow with you on board. At about 10 o'clock A.M., Lieutenant Johnson and thirteen men from Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" landed to reinforce me.

During the day I employed the force in destroying all stores of arms that I could discover, blowing up the magazine in Fort Zelandia, to prevent any accident happening from the large quantity of gunpowder stowed there, and which was stored in a very careless and dangerous manner.

The 40,000 dollars arrived at head-quarters from Taiwan-foo about 4 o'clock, and were sent off to Her Majesty's gun-boat "Algerine" for safe custody, I giving a receipt and guarantee to the persons bringing it that it would be restored on the fulfilment of your demand by the Vice-Royal Government of Fukien. On Tuesday, the 29th instant, at about 11 A.M., Tseng, Taoutae of Amoy, arrived for a conference, and was received with all due honours.

You requested me, as Senior Naval Officer, to make any demands that I required from the Chinese authorities, when I requested from them, before Her Majesty's forces under my command re-embarked, the payment of a sum of 10,000 Mexican dollars, to be applied as follows:—

A sum of 5,000 dollars for repayment to the British Government of any expense incurred by them in the present expedition: also, a further sum of 5,000 dollars to be paid

to me for ransom of all guns and the Government stores remaining in the town of Amping, the sum in question to be distributed as prize money to the officers and men under my command.

This demand was complied with, I, on my part, agreeing to return the sum of 40,000 dollars deposited as a guarantee with me; to restore the man-of-war lorch, taken by Her Majesty's ship under my command; and to evacuate the town of Amping.

These promises being conditional on Tseng Taoutae fulfilling the following requests:—

That he should send you a despatch guaranteeing the dismissal of Liang Taoutae and other officials implicated in the late disturbances at Formosa;

That Tseng Taoutae should guarantee that no Chinese military force should attempt to occupy Amping until the ratification of the Vice-Royal Government of Fukien of all your requests, the town of Amping, in the meantime, being held by us from a gun-boat.

These requests were all complied with, the Taoutae of Amoy returning to Taiwan-foo about 2 P.M.

On Tuesday the 1st of December, about 11.30 A.M., the Tsien of Taiwan-foo arrived with the sum of 10,000 dollars, the indemnity required by me before the embarkation of Her Majesty's forces under my command, for which I gave him a receipt, and handed over to him in return the 40,000 dollars in my possession as a guarantee for the fulfilment of your demands. The man-of-war lorch had been restored to the Chinese officials on the previous day.

An arrangement was also entered into with the Tsien to receive over civil possession of the town from me at 10 o'clock the following morning, Her Majesty's forces under my command embarking immediately after the ceremony.

At the same time a sum of 200 dollars, that had been paid by the captain of the man-of-war lorch, by previous arrangement, for damages sustained by the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Algerine" in boarding and towing her out, was given back to the Tsien; I taking a receipt for the same from Mr. Mann, Commissioner of Customs.

At noon on Wednesday, the 2nd instant, the Tsien of Taiwan-foo arrived, and was received with all due honours at the main guard, when I handed over to him officially the civil government of the town of Amping. Her Majesty's forces were then marched down to their boats, and embarked without delay, after having held Amping since Thursday the 26th of November.

I have the honour to state, for your information, that, when captured by me, the town of Amping had, mounted on its fortifications, forty-one guns, and that there were in store, ready for mounting, no less than 101.

The above-mentioned guns varied in calibre, but the greater number consisted of 16 and 12-pounders.

I also destroyed, whilst in possession of Amping, about 4,000 stand of arms, consisting of gingalls, matchlocks, bows and arrows, swords and spears.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. GURDON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Gibson to the Senior Naval Officer, Taiwan, December 3, 1868.

[See Inclosure 6 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 18.

Messrs. Ellis and Co. to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir, WE are in receipt of your letter of the 5th current, together with the sum of 6,000 dollars, being the indemnity for camphor stolen and illegally detained at Guo-chay. The amount is correct, but we find there are 18 bad dollars, which we return.

We note that the trade in camphor is to be opened, and that proclamations to this effect will be posted at the camphor-producing districts.

We have, &c.
For Ellis and Co.,
(Signed) W. H. TAYLOR.

Inclosure 10 in No. 18.

*Dr. Maxwell to Acting Consul Gibson.**English Presbyterian Mission House, Takow,
December 8, 1868.*

Sir,

I HAVE much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your communication of date 5th December, informing me that Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner of the Governor-General of Fukien had assented to your conditions and had sent down 1,167 Mexican dollars as an indemnity for the destruction of Protestant property. I beg further to acknowledge the receipt of the above money.

I am very glad to hear that, as a further result of your persevering efforts in our behalf, the Commissioner is about to issue proclamations in favour of Christianity. I shall be careful to attend to your injunction to await the due publications of such proclamations before recommencing work in other places than Takow.

My colleague, Mr. Ritchie, unites with me in most hearty thanks to you for your vigorous assertion of our Treaty rights as British subjects and as Protestant missionaries in this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES L. MAXWELL, M.D.

Inclosure 11 in No. 18.

Mr. Sainz to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir,

Catholic Mission Provincial Vicarage, Chung-kun.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 5th instant, in which you communicate to us both the assent of Tseng Ta-jin, the Commissioner of the Governor-General of Fukien to your just conditions, and the indemnity of 2,000 Mexican dollars as damages for the destruction of the Catholic property, which dollars we have received.

What can I do for such a favour? I cannot express my gratefulness, but it will be of great pleasure for me to say I thank you, I thank British force, and the Vice-Consul for France.

I am very glad for your firm attitude with the Chinese; without it all other means will be for ceremony only, but for nothing else. If somebody will be of a different opinion I respect it.

I desire to see the proclamation in favour of Christianity by Tseng Ta-jin, and would to God they are as they ought to be.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. T. SAIREZ,
Provincial Vicar of Catholic Mission.

Inclosure 12 in No. 18.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

A Proclamation by Tseng, Taoutae of Amoy, having rank of Provincial Judge and Commissioner for certain Affairs in Formosa.

WHEREAS, their Excellencies the Viceroy and Governor of Fukien, deputed me to visit Taiwan, as Special Commissioner to settle in conjunction with the local authorities, all foreign matters awaiting adjustment, and to consider a reduction in the price of camphor sold at the Government depôt. On my arrival in Formosa, I proceeded, together with Liang, Taoutae of Taiwan, and Yeh the Prefect, to examine the original documents, from which it appeared that hitherto all the camphor produced in the various districts of Formosa was bought in and resold by a contractor who was officially installed in the depôt established for the purpose at Taiwan by the Taoutae. A certain proportion of the profits accruing from the sale was required to be paid to Government by the contractor, and was applied to the expenses of Government works. An officer was deputed with a body of military as a preventive service to suppress disturbances and hinder private sales. These measures were taken in consideration of the importance of raising funds for the expenses of the Government yards, and they have been in vogue several years.

When, however, the port of Taiwan was opened to trade, the foreign merchants finding the Government prices too high, went into the market on their own account. On several occasions seizures were made of camphor thus surreptitiously purchased at Wu-chi-chiang, a place not opened to trade; and many disturbances have resulted: the merchants alleging that such action was in breach of Treaty, and the prohibition unauthorized. Meanwhile, independent trade in camphor increased to such an extent that the contractor resigned his post, and the camphor office was in abeyance.

These events were duly reported to his superiors by the Taoutae of Taiwan.

By careful investigation we now find that the Government camphor was produced at great expense, and when to this is added the cost of its carriage to the depôt and the loss occasioned by the discount, the capital employed was in excess of that necessary for the private production of camphor. The selling prices were higher in consequence, and it could not compete with the camphor of the private producer.

Further, camphor is made an article of trade by Treaty. It has a rate of duty fixed by Tariff, and can be exported. It is not one of the prohibited articles. If the foreign merchant were compelled to buy of the Government contractor, and should be dissatisfied with the high rates charged, he could not be forced to purchase, while such a measure would in effect be a monopoly and fail to carry out the principle of liberality to foreigners. Should, on the other hand, the native merchants alone be made to buy of Government, complaints of partiality would inevitably arise. This course, therefore, is impracticable.

After mature consideration, I concluded that the only course left was to propose the permanent abolition of the Government depôt, and that in accordance with the terms of the Supplementary Treaty, the foreign merchant, having applied to the Superintendent of Customs for the necessary transit pass and duty receipt, might either go into the interior himself, or send his agent to buy at a fair rate from the native producer. He might then convey it in native boats to the Custom-house for inspection, and ship it for exportation on payment of export and transit duties, and that there was no necessity to establish any inland Customs barrier. These measures it was hoped would prove satisfactory, and lead to the establishment of mutual concord between foreigners and natives, and remove all causes of complaint.

I accordingly sent the Prefect of Taiwan to Chi-hou to consult on their expediency with Mr. Gibson, British Consul at Taiwan, and Acting-Consul in the interests of the French, Prussians, and Danes, and he signified his approval of the measures. Having then referred the whole case to the authorities in Fukien for their approval, I received their sanction to the scheme.

I have transmitted a copy of the sections of the Treaty which refer to the camphor trade to Mr. Consul Gibson, requesting an answer in detail, on the receipt of which I shall send my Report to the Viceroy and Governor of Fukien, and issue instructions to the magistrates in Taiwan.

It remains for me to issue this Proclamation.

Let the producers and merchants of camphor know that the Government depôt is hereby declared to be abolished, and the official purchases and sales in camphor are at an end. Native and foreign merchants are henceforth at liberty to trade in camphor at will and without hindrance.

The original Proclamation of the Taoutae prohibiting the native merchants and producers of camphor from trading independently under pain of being punished in like manner as the contraband traders in camphor wood and sulphur, is hereby declared to be annulled and waste paper.

Hereafter, ye producers of camphor are permitted as of old to make your camphor and trade with native or foreign merchants on fair terms and ready money payment, without official supervision.

Let not any suspicions lead you to suspend the operations of your trade. Should any of the military or Government employés, under pretence of being sent out by the camphor depôt authorities to watch against contraband trade, illegally continue to hinder your trade or exact fines, ye are to give immediate information to the local authorities; and they and the Yamên will severally cause the offenders to be arrested, tried, and punished with the utmost rigour.

This is to show them clearly what they have to avoid, and to alleviate the difficulties of the merchants.

Let this Proclamation be strictly obeyed.

Tung-chih, 7th year 10th moon 27th day (December 10, 1868).

Inclosure 13 in No. 18.

The Prince of Kung to Sir R. Alcock.

(Translation.)

THE Prince of Kung, &c., makes a communication.

On the 11th instant a Memorial was received from the Viceroy of Fukien and Che-kiang, Ying, and the Governor of Fukien, Pien, to the effect that "the Intendant of the Hsing, Chüen, Yung Circuit, Tseng Tsien-tih (the Amoy Taoutae), was directed to proceed to the district capital (Taiwan-foo) as a Special Commissioner (bearing his seal), there to examine the archives and settle promptly and satisfactorily the several matters requiring adjustment in Formosa. As regards visits to the interior by foreign merchants and native vagabonds acting in collusion, the prevention by the Camphor Committee of the opening at Wuchi, and other places not being Treaty ports, of establishments for the private purchase of camphor for export, the burning and destruction of the religious establishments, the quarrel between a native and a foreigner, and the murders of Christian converts; in all these cases the criminals, having been apprehended by the sub-prefects and magistrates acting under orders from the Intendant of Formosa and the Prefect of Taiwan, were sentenced, some to exposure in the cangue, and some to flogging. Five points were thus disposed of, and two left unsettled. There also remained the regulations for the camphor trade, which it was necessary to settle with the English Consul personally. Mr. Gibson having repeatedly expressed his desire to send for vessels of war and extort an indemnity, the Amoy Taoutae and Acting Prefect of Taiwan, Jê Tsung-Yuen, proceeded together to Takow (Chi-how) to confer with that gentleman, who, however, repeatedly pleading illness, would not see them.

"All at once, on the 21st November, these officers became aware that Consul Gibson himself, and the naval officers, Chie-tang and Yung-shêng, had gone to Amping (Fort Zelandia) with two men-of-war and had bombarded the place, firing seven shots. The enraged populace, who wished to fight, were restrained and subordinated by the officials sent by the Lieutenant-General, Liu Ming-têng, and others, in conjunction with the civil authority, who would not allow them to be impatient or disorderly. At last, on the 24th November, the Amoy Taoutae and Acting Prefect of Taiwan had an interview with Mr. Gibson. They repeatedly set the right before him, and quoted the Treaty in condemnation of his acts. He was in the wrong, and was at a loss how to reply, expressing his willingness to confer on the several points. Accordingly, a course of action for immediate adoption was decided upon for each. Mr. Gibson's reply to the Amoy Taoutae differs in no respect from this statement.

"Unexpectedly, during the 25th of November, the naval officer, Chie-tang, towed off a supply vessel belonging to the Pescadores squadron, taking also her Commander, Sun Kuang-tsai, and two soldiers. Then, about midnight of that same day, the same officer stealthily brought on shore, by an unfrequented channel, a number of foreign soldiers. They burst into the quarters of the Brigadier commanding at Amping, killing and wounding his men. That officer, by name Chiang Kuo-chen, being too much outnumbered to resist, and being wounded, destroyed himself by poison. There were also killed 1 soldier and 10 braves, while 13 others were wounded, and the stores and powder magazines of all three brigades were set on fire and destroyed. Chie-tang said that he had been ordered to make the attack; that if a cessation of hostilities was desired, 40,000 dollars must be handed over at once, and that if there was any delay he would bombard the city. On this the gentry and merchants raised the sum of 40,000 dollars, which was handed to Chie-tang to be held as a guarantee.

"The Amoy Taoutae sent Man San-têh (Mr. Man, the Commissioner of Customs at Takow) to Mr. Gibson to protest against such violation of the engagements already entered into, by the employment of armed force. Mr. Gibson declared that he had directed the gun-boat to anchor off Fort Zelandia, but had given no order to commence an attack; and that Chie-tang had landed and caused the disturbance in disobedience of orders and without the knowledge of the Consul; while Chie-tang as positively asserted that he was not to blame, having acted under orders. Each held to his own statement and disputed the point. On the 29th November the Amoy Taoutae and Acting Prefect of Taiwan went to Amping, and having invited the attendance of the various foreign officers, strictly inquired of them as to their various breaches of Treaty. Mr. Gibson ordered Chie-tang to return to the gentry and merchants the 40,000 dollars held in guarantee; and the arrangements previously made were to be carried out as at first decided. But when the fault of Chie-tang, in committing an act of war of his own motion, came under discussion, that officer, unexpectedly adhering to his previous statement, would deduct 10,000 dollars from the sum he held to make good his expenses. He insisted that this

must be paid by the local authorities, who, thereupon, having been furnished with the amount by the gentry and merchants, handed it to Gibson and Chie-tang. An English receipt, sealed by them, was given to the Magistrate of Taiwan, and Chie-tang returned the 40,000 dollars received by him as a guarantee to the gentry and merchants; he also restored the vessel and the officer and men detained by him, and the residence of the Brigadier, and having embarked his men returned to Takow. The vessel of Jung Shêng still remained anchored at Amping, &c., &c."

In this matter of the camphor trade by British merchants, and missionary troubles in Formosa, the reiterated communications of his Excellency the British Minister were each and all succeeded by orders from the Prince to the high provincial authorities of Chekiang and Fukien to send a high official across to Formosa to do justice in conjunction with all parties.

It appears from the memorial of the Viceroy that the Amoy Taoutae had reported that at an interview with Mr. Consul Gibson the various questions remaining unsettled in Formosa had been discussed and decided *seriatim*, with a view to an immediate settlement accordingly; and that Consul Gibson in a despatch in reply to the Amoy Taoutae raised no objections.

There should have been no further differences over a matter once so discussed; but Consul Gibson, the discussion on the points having closed, all at once, in contravention of the agreement which had been come to, permits Chie-tang to commence a bombardment, to seize a vessel, to take possession of a barrack, to cause the death of a Brigadier, to wound and kill soldiers and braves, to burn down a store and magazine, and to extort an indemnity. All these acts are in breach of Treaty, and he undertook them having undoubtedly a wilful desire to quarrel.

During the reign of His late Majesty, and before the exchange of Treaties, it often happened that foreign nations having differences with the local officials had recourse to ships of war. But since the conclusion of the Treaties there have been resident foreign Ministers to discuss in a spirit of amity all questions with the Foreign Board. There have been instances of even-handed justice, of redress granted, and of protection afforded; each side has placed confidence in the other. A Consul, then, who has a difficulty has his appeal to his Minister in the capital, and should no longer on all occasions call for naval assistance to the detriment of friendly relations.

In the present instance, Mr. Gibson, if not satisfied with what was proposed, might have discussed his argument with the local authorities, or, having reported his course of action, might have awaited your Excellency's instructions. But instead of either, he takes upon himself to commit an act of war, and raise a most serious question.

The Prince and his Excellency the British Minister regard good faith, and would preserve friendly relations; each desires that amicable relations may perpetually increase; but this Consul and the military officers engaged on the other hand have dared, following their own inclinations, and having no fear of the law, to insult China, and recklessly make war. It was not the intention of his Excellency the British Minister that they should so act; he cannot support the action of the Consul and his colleagues; while the Prince, as Administrator-General of Foreign Affairs, cannot tolerate such anarchy between the two countries, when it is brought to his notice.

Moreover, the disposition of the populace of Formosa is fierce and excitable, differing greatly from that of the people of China. On the present occasion the Lieutenant-General commanding, and the Intendant, having supreme regard for the Treaty, would not allow the populace to fight. Had the people been as irritable as Mr. Gibson, their united rage being irresistible would have greatly endangered mercantile interests generally.

Already, a short time ago, the Prince wrote to request the British Minister to caution Mr. Medhurst for taking soldiers to Yang-chow. But Consul Gibson's offence is of a more glaring nature. If it is not severely punished, how will the authority of his Excellency the British Minister to control the Consuls at the other ports appear? In the time to come such acts of war will be everywhere improved upon, and what will be the end?

The Prince has made no haste to inform the Chinese Envoy of this case, that it might be communicated to the British Government, nor did he notify it to the several foreign Ministers, because his Excellency in his ministerial capacity, whenever international questions have arisen at the ports, has always dealt justly by them. The Prince, therefore, in the first instance, solicits the action of his Excellency the British Minister. He trusts that the wrong doing of Consul Gibson and of the officer Chie-tang will be thoroughly inquired into and punished, and that they will be ordered to refund the 10,000 dollars they have extorted; that, as a warning, and insure to the friendly relations of the two countries, his Excellency will memorialize Her Majesty the Queen to dismiss Consul Gibson and his colleague (Lieutenant Gurdon) from her service and punish them. On no account should

any consideration be shown them. As to the murder of a high official of the second grade, the killing and wounding of soldiers and braves, the burning of the store and magazines, the Prince hopes to learn in reply how his Excellency proposes to deal with these cases.

On receipt of the full details of these cases from the Provincial authorities, the matter can be further considered and dealt with. Meanwhile, the Prince addresses his Excellency the British Minister as above.

A necessary communication to Sir R. Alcock, &c.

7th year, 12th month 4th day (16th January, 1869).

Inclosure 14 in No. 18.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung.

January 28, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from your Imperial Highness dated the 16th of January.

I had hoped before this to have received from Taiwan a detailed report of the occurrences referred to in the memorial of the Viceroy of Fukien and Che-kiang, Ying, and the Governor of the Fukien Provinces, and to have been enabled to reply with a full knowledge of the facts.

As up to the present time, however, nothing has arrived but a short despatch of Mr. Gibson, very briefly stating in outline the arrangements entered into with Tseng Ta-jin, the Amoy Taoutae dispatched to Taiwan for that purpose, and the events which preceded immediately the settlement made on the 24th of November, I am unwilling any longer to defer acknowledging the communication of your Imperial Highness.

In the absence of the detailed report which Mr. Gibson announced his intention of forwarding by the earliest opportunity, I cannot enter into any discussion of the particular facts, but I may at once inform your Imperial Highness that no act of hostility having been authorized by me, Mr. Gibson will be held responsible for whatever may have been done under his orders of the nature; and if the facts should prove, on due inquiry, to be such as the Viceroy of Fukien and Chekiang and the Governor of Fukien represent in their Memorial, both Mr. Gibson and the naval officer in question will be held answerable for any hostile measures leading to a loss of life, which in common with your Imperial Highness I sincerely deplore.

If any sums have been exacted for war expenses, or for any other purpose than a just compensation for losses and injuries inflicted on British subjects, and for which indemnity had already been claimed, I will take immediate steps for their reimbursement.

I had already two months ago taken steps to supersede Mr. Gibson in charge of the Consulate, and Mr. Swinhoe, the Consul of Taiwan, will long ere this have arrived at his post. I had also in communication with his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-chief, made arrangements with the Senior Naval Officer of superior rank to proceed to Taiwan, and in concert with Mr. Swinhoe, endeavour to secure a satisfactory settlement of all pending differences with the local authorities.

Unfortunately, the length of time required for the transmission of orders, and the uncertainty in all means of communication, have prevented these arrangements taking effect in time to avert the evil that was feared from the long continuance of the contentions and differences.

As soon as I receive more detailed information from the spot, I will again address your Imperial Highness on the subject, when all matters connected therewith can be further considered and decided upon in accordance with Treaty rights. Meanwhile, I forward these few lines in acknowledgment.

In the meantime, it will be evident to your Imperial Highness that so long as provincial high officers at Foo-chow, and their subordinate local officers in Formosa either do not know or will not give effect to the engagements entered into by the Imperial Government at Peking with the Representatives of foreign Powers, such untoward complications as these are only too likely to arise, whatever may be the desire of these to maintain none but the most friendly relations, and to conduct international affairs on the strictest principles of justice and good faith. Had the long-standing grievances of foreigners in Formosa been earlier attended to and redressed by Fukien High Authorities, the present collision and loss of life would certainly not have occurred.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 15 in No. 18.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Peking, February 4, 1869.

I HAVE just received a despatch from Admiral Keppel informing me that immediately it had been reported to him that a sum of 10,000 dollars had been demanded by Lieutenant Gurdon for war expenses, he ordered that it should be returned to the Local Authorities at Taiwan, having thus anticipated my wishes and your Imperial Highness' request.

With reference to the injuries sustained by missionaries at the hands of the populace at Yang-chow, medical evidence of unimpeachable character having satisfied me that the injuries received by Mr. Rudland, Mrs. Taylor, and Miss Blatchley are all of so serious a character as to entail some permanent disability, I have felt bound to instruct Mr. Medhurst to demand of the Local Authorities a further sum of 1,500 taels to be divided among the sufferers as a very moderate compensation for the injuries received. By the inclosed document your Highness will perceive that Mr. Medhurst holds the sum of 6,000 taels as a guarantee for the arrest of the man Koh; and when that officer claimed in compensation for the injured missionaries 500 taels he distinctly made the demand subject to my approval as to the amount. It will save trouble and expedite a satisfactory settlement, therefore, if Mr. Medhurst deducts from this sum the amounts now to be paid to the missionaries; and it will be for the High Provincial Authorities to compel the Yang-chow officials, through whose fault it is that the missionaries were injured, to make good the amount to the Imperial Treasury.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 19.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 23.)

(Extract.)

Peking, February 11, 1869.

I WAS glad to be able to communicate to the Prince the fact that, previous to any action on my part becoming known to the Admiral, Sir Henry Keppel, he had, by anticipation caused the refund, to the local authorities, of the 10,000 dollars, indemnity claimed by Lieutenant Gurdon at Taiwan.

It may be necessary if, in the future, similar cases are to occur, to insist upon the repayment of all expenses to which Her Majesty's Government may be put when compelled to adopt measures of coercion with the local authorities to compel redress not otherwise attainable for wrongs suffered by British subjects; but for the present, as in the Yangchow case, I believe, it was more important to avoid all possible misconception of our motives for action, and demonstrate that redress and justice, not money for Her Majesty's Government, were the sole objects contemplated.

I have received, but too late to forward copies by this packet, further reports and despatches, both from Mr. Swinhoe and Mr. Gibson. From these I learn that Mr. Swinhoe who did not arrive until the 10th of December off Taiwan, when the engagements entered into by the local authorities and Commissioners from Amoy, were being actively carried out, hesitated to take charge in accordance with my instructions, and thus supersede Mr. Gibson, fearing that it might be construed into a censure and disapproval of that officer's action, and interfere with the progress of a satisfactory settlement.

Under the circumstances, I think Mr. Swinhoe exercised a wise discretion, upon the whole, and I have not felt disposed to take serious exception to the course adopted, as will be seen by my despatch of this date, a copy of which I inclose, as also of one to Mr. Gibson directing him to continue in charge for the present.

Mr. Gibson's continuance in charge is, nevertheless, a cause of some embarrassment to me. Having already announced to the Prince of Kung the despatch of Mr. Swinhoe, and Mr. Gibson's anticipated relief by the presence of the Consul of the port, it will be impossible to leave the latter permanently there. And as Mr. Swinhoe's health appears to too precarious to enable him to remain at his own post in a tropical climate, and will probably compel him, at no distant date, to apply for sick leave to return to England, I must shortly make some other arrangements for removing Mr. Gibson. If the acts of hostility cannot be ultimately approved and defended, it will be necessary to take some steps in satisfaction of the demands made by the Prince. In any case, I should not feel justified

in leaving Mr. Gibson in sole charge, nor do I think, in any point of view, it would be expedient. The local authorities, whose removal I had demanded, either have already been displaced, or the assurance received that they shall be so promptly. Until this takes effect I have good ground for hesitating to remove Mr. Gibson, whether the final judgment on his conduct be one of condemnation or approval. But I think there will be a better chance of friendly relations being established and maintained with the new Chinese authorities if, on both sides, a change in the administrative officers can be effected.

I ought to mention, that up to the date of the last despatches from Formosa, the 6th of January, Mr. Swinhoe was still at Takow, giving his advice and assistance to Mr. Gibson, although he had declined taking charge. Everything seemed to be proceeding very satisfactorily. The chief criminal in the murder of the catechist had been executed; various other offenders had been identified and punished; all the sums claimed in compensation for the merchants and missionaries had been paid into Mr. Gibson's hands in full; and a satisfactory Proclamation, denouncing all offenders against the missionaries or foreigners generally, had been issued; as also another, distinctly relinquishing all right to continue a camphor monopoly. On one point alone did there seem any question in carrying out the engagements entered into, and that was the removal of Ling Shuh-tseun, the Chehien, who had been inculpated in the past mal-administration of affairs.

If the means adopted by Mr. Gibson were somewhat sharp and unauthorized, it would seem that they were, at all events, eminently successful, and brought all our difficulties, with both authorities and people, to a very swift and satisfactory termination, while nine months had been wasted in previous futile efforts by negotiation and remonstrance.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Swinhoe.

(Extract.)

Peking, February 12, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatches of 15th, 26th, and 28th of December last, and under the circumstances stated in your despatch of December 15th, I am not disposed to take exception to the discretionary power you assumed in not giving effect to your instructions. At the same time, as you were simply a Consul returning to your own post, and therefore necessarily superseding any Junior Officer acting in your place and absence, I do not see in the same strong light that you seem to have done, the liability of misconstruction on the part of the local authorities, still less of the Commissioner sent from Amoy, who must have known very well what your actual rank and position are.

Looking, however, to the state of your health, and the probability of your not being able to take up your post permanently, it is not essential that you should now remain there.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Swinhoe.

Sir,

Peking, January 29, 1869.

WITH reference to Mr. Gibson's despatch of the 25th of November, and its inclosures, I have to instruct you to call upon that officer for a detailed report—if not already forwarded—giving his reasons for a commencement of hostilities on Chinese territory by his requisition to the Senior Naval Officer to take possession of the fort of Zelandia and the town of Amping. You will desire him to state specifically why he considered it necessary “for the bare existence and interests of British subjects” to proceed to this act of war, and what he meant by the “bare existence of British subjects?” In what way were these or their immediate interests imperilled?

I inclose you a copy of an official communication received from the Prince of Kung, recapitulating the contents of a Memorial to the Emperor from the Viceroy of Fukien and Che-kiang and the Governor of Fukien, and to every one of the allegations and statements of the writers, bearing upon the management of affairs, I have to desire a categorical reply may be furnished by Mr. Gibson.

I presume that officer will have already forwarded the detailed statement announced in his despatch of the 25th of November, and that this will supply the information required to enable me to form a correct judgment as to the whole of his proceedings

before and after the 20th of November. He will, however, do well to add, without delay whatever he may deem necessary in further vindication of measures of hostility against which the Chinese Government have protested, and for which he had no authority or sanction in any of my despatches. Such acts are far beyond the powers vested in a Consul, unless in some great and unforeseen emergency where the lives of British subjects are in immediate and imminent peril, and no other means of protection or safety can be made available.

You will also desire Mr. Gibson to furnish the Chinese version of his communication to Tseng, the Taoutae of Amoy, of which he only inclosed the English in his despatch of the 25th of November, and inform me distinctly whether he mentioned, or in any way authorized, a demand for 10,000 dollars, or any other sums, by the Senior Naval Officer for expenses, ransom or prize-money; and if not, whether, to his knowledge, any was received, under what circumstances, and with, or without, a protest on his part against the proceeding.

Mr. Gibson states that, at the conference he had with Tseng Ta-jin on the 17th of November, at Takow, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Manson, the agents for Messrs. Ellis and Co. and Messrs. Tait and Co., were present, and again at the conference of the 24th. I am at loss to know why these members of the community, having no official position, should have been present on either occasion, although there are many obvious reasons why they should not. I desire, therefore, to know upon what grounds they were intruded on the Chinese authorities in an official interview with the officer in charge of British interests, and whether they were further allowed to take any part in the proceedings?

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

Sir R. Alcock to Acting Consul Gibson.

Sir,

Peking, February 12, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th of December, and also Mr. Swinhoe's of the 15th, 26th, and 28th of December, and, as I have some reason to anticipate that this officer has already left in bad health, I have to instruct you to continue in charge until you hear farther from me. I defer expressing any final opinion on the serious responsibilities you have incurred, in seeking redress by actual hostilities with considerable loss of life, until I receive your answer to my despatch of the 29th of January, which I inclose in duplicate, to guard against any miscarriage.

I trust it is quite unnecessary to reiterate the instructions contained in my despatch of the 2nd of December, and to enjoin you to abstain from any active measures of coercion or hostility without express orders from me.

Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel informs me that he has already authorized you to refund to the proper authorities the 10,000 dollars exacted by Lieutenant Gurdon for expenses of war, &c., an act which I entirely approve, and I trust you lost no time in giving effect to the order of the Naval Commander-in-chief.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 19.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, February 12, 1869.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of the 8th ultimo, informing me that in the event of Mr. Swinhoe being enabled to carry out my previous instructions, Her Majesty's ship "Dove" would be held available to convey him up the Yang-tsze, I have to state that if that officer's health will enable him to pursue his exploration, I have written to direct him to do so, and to avail himself of your Excellency's arrangements to facilitate his objects.

I should be glad, if you saw no objection, that the gun-boat might not only try to convey him up to the farther end of the Poyang Lake, but as high above Hankow as it could safely go towards Ching-king-foo in Szechuen. And, in the event of much progress being made in that direction, it would be very desirable if careful hydrographic observations

could be made for general information, as well as to determine how far the river in its course upwards is navigable for steamers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 20.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 26, 1869.*
I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of February respecting the late occurrences at Taiwan in Formosa.

The instructions which I have addressed to you within the last four months, and, as regards Formosa more particularly, my despatch of the 23rd of February, will have fully explained to you the views of Her Majesty's Government on the general question raised in this able despatch, and the particular incidents referred to in it.

You will lose no opportunity of pressing on the Chinese Government, with special reference to my correspondence with Mr. Burlingame, of which copies have been sent to you, that Her Majesty's Government look to it, and it alone, for redress of wrongs of any kind, and under any circumstances, done to British subjects, and earnestly trust that they will not look in vain. They hold the Government at Peking alone responsible for the observance of Treaties which are contracted with it alone, and they look to it to enforce on the local authorities a full observance of them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Correspondence respecting Missionary
Disturbances at Che-foo, and Taiwan
(Formosa).

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 7½d.*]

CHINA. No. 4 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

ENGAGEMENT

OF

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "ALGERINE"

WITH

PIRATICAL JUNKS OFF NAMOA HARBOUR.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting the Engagement of Her Majesty's
ship "Algerine" with Piratical Junks off Namoa Harbour.

No. 1.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 17.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 16, 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, dated the 15th June last, with its inclosure from Lieutenant Domville, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Algerine," reporting the particulars of an action fought with thirteen armed junks, on the 3rd June, off Namoa Harbour, with the concurrence and at the request of the mandarin embarked on board "Algerine."

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rodney," at Nagasaki, June 15, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for their Lordships' information, the copy of a letter from Lieutenant C. E. Domville, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine," reporting an action fought with thirteen armed junks, who, on the 3rd June, off Namoa Harbour, fired into the "Algerine" on her closing to board them, with a view to examine their papers.

2. The skill and gallantry shown by Lieutenant Domville, and by the officers and crew of the "Algerine," in engaging and dispersing a force so vastly superior will, I trust, meet with some mark of their Lordships' approval. I may add that these vessels were engaged with the concurrence, and at the request of, the mandarin embarked.

3. With the exception of one junk captured, the piratical fleet escaped into shoal water; but Commodore Jones has dispatched the "Algerine" and "Drake" in pursuit, accompanied by the United States' gun-boat "Maumee," sent by the United States' Commander-in-chief, on the invitation of the Commodore, who has also requested the Viceroy to afford the assistance of a Chinese gun-boat.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Lieutenant and Commander Domville to Commodore Jones.

Sir,

"Algerine," Hong Kong, June 6, 1868.

REFERRING to my Report of proceedings of this day's date, I have the honour to report to you the engagement I had with thirteen Chinese junks off Namoa Harbour on the 3rd instant. On perceiving that the above-mentioned Chinese junks were determined to fight in preference to showing their papers, I at once cleared for action and commenced. At that time there were nine junks in line of battle with their flags up, manœuvring very well by signal from their leader.

On my passing down the line they commenced firing shot and grape, which I returned with shell and shot. Our practice, though good, could not be relied upon for sinking them as, though there was a light north-east breeze, there was also a heavy rolling swell. They fired so accurately that the shot hulled us several times, but were not sufficiently heavy to penetrate; the grape flew over the heads of the pivot-gun's crew repeatedly. My endeavour was to drive them into Namoa Harbour, and then destroy them at leisure; as I saw if the wind sprung up a great portion of them must escape, and they were cruising in too close proximity to Bost Rock and the dangerous ground thereabouts, to close them at once. About this period of the engagement two junks joined them, and two more passed down outside the gun-boat, and just at that moment the breeching-bolt in the ship's side drew, and the pivot-gun ran off the slide.

When the pivot-gun was remounted I passed down the line, shelling them, and cut off the in-shoal junk. On running up to him he lowered his sails, and I boarded him in the gig, and with the mandarin examined his papers, which were apparently correct. Seeing that I should lose the other junks if I remained to destroy or take her in tow, I pitched her guns overboard and took the captain with me, and ordered him, as he said he was a merchant-junk, to send her to join me at Namoa. It was then getting late, and although I put on all possible steam I only came up with them at dark. I then separated one, which went out to sea, and following the others, which were making for a difficult pass between two islands, I concluded the only chance of putting an end to the engagement was by going alongside and pouring in grape at close quarters; I passed down three times along the line, with grape and shell entered fuze inwards. It must have told with fearful effect by the yells that ensued, but still they fought their guns well, and shot away nearly every rope before the funnel, and riddled the fore try-sail and fore-mast main-deck awning; the starboard roundhouse was also shot away by round-shot. By this time we were close to the pass, and I had just time to turn and get through the junks to avoid running on shore. They then slipped through the pass and got away into shoal water. I immediately closed the junk that I had driven to sea, and about 10 P.M. overhauled and captured her. I found her hulls and sails much knocked about with shot, and two men wounded by splinters. As she was only in the first part of the engagement, I conclude the others must have suffered a great deal more.

I regret not having been able to follow them up; but having barely coals enough to reach Hong Kong and the port boiler leaking badly, I deemed it advisable to return to Namoa with the prize.

In conclusion, I have the honour to call your attention to the behaviour of all officers and men concerned. Mr. Quinn, navigating lieutenant, was beside me on the bridge throughout, conning; Mr. Swanson, the engineer in charge, with assistants, themselves took the fires to enable everybody to come on deck, as we were rather short-handed at the pivot-gun; Mr. James Walker, boatswain third class, and James Davey, chief gunner's mate, laid and pointed the guns with great skill and coolness when close alongside, and greatly contributed to remounting the pivot-guns so quickly. It is with great pleasure I have to report no casualties; as had the hail of grape, which cut everything forward, been ten feet further aft, there would have been few unwounded at the pivot-gun.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COMPTON E. DOMVILLE.

No. 2.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 19.)

Sir,

Admiralty, March 18, 1869.

WITH reference to my letter of the 16th October last, forwarding the Report of an action fought by Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Algerine" off Namoa Harbour on the 3rd June, 1868, with thirteen armed junks, which fired on the "Algerine" on her closing to board them to examine their papers, and which were subsequently found to be opium traders, and not piratical vessels, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel dated the 24th January, requesting instructions as to the course to be followed in the event of Chinese opium smugglers firing on Her Majesty's ships on any future occasion.

I also inclose a copy of the answer which their Lordships propose to send to Sir Henry Keppel.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "Rodney," at Hong Kong, January 24, 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 19th November, 1868, referring to my letter of the 24th August last, acquainting their Lordships that the fleet of thirteen junks which attacked Her Majesty's gun-boat "Algerine" subsequently proved to be opium smugglers, and that such vessels will not permit even their own vessels of war to communicate with them;

2. I regret that their Lordships should consider that I showed want of caution in recommending Commander Domville for the skill and gallantry with which he opposed so superior a force.

3. But as it is impossible to distinguish between a piratical fleet and a fleet of opium smugglers, and as such a collision may possibly occur again, I have the honour to request that their Lordships will be pleased to inform me whether, in the event of a fleet of the latter description firing on one of Her Majesty's ships, as in the case of the "Algerine," I shall be justified in reproving the officer who returns the fire.

4. The view I cannot help taking is, that when a number of armed vessels fire on one of Her Majesty's ships on the high seas, rather than permit their papers to be examined, the act is *prima facie* evidence of piracy, and that the conduct of the officer who resents the insult to the best of his ability, and eventually disperses the superior force capturing one of them, deserves to be described as skilful and gallant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir, Admiralty, March 18, 1869.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 24th January, relative to an action between the "Algerine" and thirteen armed junks off Namoa Harbour, in June last, and requesting instructions as to the course to be pursued in the event of any further instances of Chinese opium smugglers firing on Her Majesty's ships.

It is well known to the officers employed in Her Majesty's ships on the coast of China for the suppression of piracy, that there are large numbers of well-appointed armed ships engaged in smuggling opium, which will not allow the Chinese officials to board them.

It may easily be understood that a Chinese mandarin on board one of Her Majesty's cruisers would be readily disposed to use the opportunity of boarding and seizing such ships.

These considerations should render an officer doubly cautious before he begins an action with vessels which may be wholly innocent of piracy. Not to return the fire would no doubt have required the presence of an officer of great temper and sagacity.

It appears, from Lieutenant Domville's letter of 15th January, 1868, that he succeeded in cutting off one of the Chinese junks, and that he boarded her, and with the mandarin examined her papers, which were apparently correct.

The captain also stated that his was a merchant-junk, and it is not stated that his story was disbelieved.

If his story was true, it was clear that the other junks in his company were not pirates; but after this incident, Lieutenant Domville commenced a sanguinary engagement, pouring in grape at close quarters as he passed three times down the line, which, he adds, "told with fearful effect."

The junk captured was proved, on trial at Hong Kong, to have been a trader, and was consequently released.

Looking to the foregoing considerations, my Lords have no hesitation in expressing their inability to concur with that part of your despatch which lays it down that "when a number of armed vessels fire on one of Her Majesty's ships on the high seas, rather than permit their papers to be examined, the act is *prima facie* evidence of piracy."

Chinese merchant-vessels are by law entitled to navigate the high seas armed with heavy guns.

You will, therefore, give orders that Chinese vessels are not to be attacked, or their fire provoked, unless from previous information, or other unmistakeable grounds, there can be no reasonable doubt that the ship is engaged in piracy.

Such an event as the one described in this correspondence must be a great discouragement to native trade on the coast, and must justly cause ill-will between the merchant-junks and Her Majesty's ships engaged in suppressing piracy.

You will take the earliest opportunity of making the officers under your command acquainted with the remarks and instructions of their Lordships.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINÉ.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of a correspondence, as marked in the margin,* with the Board of Admiralty, respecting the action fought on the 3rd of June last, by Her Majesty's gun-boat "Algerine," with thirteen armed junks, off Namoa Harbour.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 1 and 2.

Correspondence respecting the Engagement of Her Majesty's Ship "Algerine" with Piratical Junks off Namoa Harbour.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1869.

[*Price 1d.*]

LONDON :

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CHINA. No. 5 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY

IN THE



RIVER HAN.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

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Correspondence respecting the Suppression of Piracy in the River Han.

No. 1.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 5.)

Sir, *Admiralty, November 3, 1868.*
I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 25th August, together with copies of its inclosures, relative to the proceedings of Her Majesty's gun-boats "Bustard" and "Drake" in assisting the Imperial Chinese troops in the suppression of piracy in the River Han.

My Lords would be glad to be informed whether, under the circumstances detailed in the accompanying correspondence, the proceedings of Lieutenant Johnson, commanding the "Bustard," in assisting the Chinese authorities to reduce the fortified town of Choo-chi should be approved.

Their Lordships desire me to call attention to the sum of 2,000 dollars, to be paid by the inhabitants of the village to the British Government, and to request they may be informed whether this sum should be retained, and, if so, to whom it should be handed over.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Rodney," at Port May, August 25, 1868.*
IN paragraphs 12 to 17 of my general letter of the 18th June, 1867, I acquainted their Lordships with the proceedings of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Drake," when employed up the River Han, on the requisition of Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow, effecting the release of a British subject held to ransom in the piratical village of Linlao, and also checking a system of black-mail imposed by the Chiefs of the various villages on the boats coming down the river with produce, the property of British merchants.

2. The "Drake" on that occasion fully executed the duties upon which she had been detached, but their Lordships will observe by the inclosed correspondence that for similar acts it has been necessary to again punish the inhabitants of a piratical and fortified village named Choo-chi, situated in the same river.

3. These villages had not merely fired on the boat of Mr. Hutchings, who supplies Her Majesty's ships at Swatow, but were also living on the plunder of trading-boats, so that they had stopped all traffic in that part of the River Han to the injury of British trade.

4. Although under ordinary circumstances it would be the duty of the Chinese authorities to put a stop to such proceedings, they confessed their inability to do so without the aid of Her Majesty's gun-boat at Swatow.

5. In this special case it was desirable that such assistance should be given with a view to removing one of the many obstacles to trade in the River Han, and to intercourse with the port of Chow-chow-foo, where we have the Treaty right to trade.

6. Lieutenant Cecil T. W. Johnson, of the "Bustard," acting on the requisition of

Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow, proceeded from thence to Choo-chi, to act in co-operation with an Imperial force sent against the place.

7. The accompanying Report will acquaint their Lordships with the successful result of these operations.

8. Lieutenant Johnson appears to have behaved with much spirit by personally encouraging and accompanying the Imperial troops to the assault, while with great judgment he employed the small force under his command to the best advantage, working a 24-pounder howitzer, landed from the "Bustard," and placed in position to command the town.

9. The complete surrender of this comparatively strong position appears to me principally owing to the assistance rendered by Lieutenant Johnson, and I trust the ability and prudence which marked his proceedings will meet with their Lordships' approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Lieutenant and Commander Johnson to Captain Ross.

Sir,

"Bustard," at Swatow, August 4, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in compliance with the request contained in the letter from Mr. Thomson, Her Majesty's Acting-Consul at this port, of which I inclose a copy, I proceeded in Her Majesty's gun-boat under my command on the 28th ultimo, at 4 P.M., to the town of Paou Tai, on the River Han.

I was accompanied by Mr. Thomson and Dr. C. M. Jones, also by the Mandarin magistrates of Kit-Yung.

On the following morning I proceeded up the river, and at 6.30 A.M. anchored off Choo-chi, stated by the Mandarin authorities to be the same village or town from which, in November last, Mr. Hutchings (an English contractor at this port) was fired upon when conveying provisions to the "Bustard;" this place is named in the local dialect Keh-hoi, and the circumstance alluded to was mentioned by me in a letter of proceedings dated 8th November, 1867, and addressed to Commodore O. Jones, whose permission I hold to proceed against the village, with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Consul.

On arrival at Choo-chi I proceeded, accompanied by the Consul, Doctor, and Mandarin, to inspect the forces of the latter, consisting in all of about 600 or 800 men, who, in a series of stockades, were partially investing the town.

From one of the advanced stockades I sent in a notice to the effect that, should the Mandarin forces be again exposed on attempting to enter, I should open fire on the town from Her Majesty's gun-boat.

In answer, I received a request to meet a deputation from the town between the lines.

I agreed to do so, after consulting the Mandarin, who expressed his willingness to accept as a sufficient atonement the surrender of four men whom he named as leaders in all the malpractices complained of; this surrender to be made to our forces, and the prisoners guaranteed a fair trial at Swatow by the Taoutae of the district.

The deputation would not agree to these terms, and I consequently reverted to those of my first notice, and returning, requested the Mandarin to send in his troops.

At 1 P.M., the troops advanced; but finding, after some delay, that they did not do so beyond a certain point, I proceeded, still accompanied by Mr. Thomson and Dr. Jones, to join and lead them forward.

After a considerable delay we succeeded in inducing them to assault at two separate points, accompanying them to within about forty yards of the enemy, who, from behind their very cleverly constructed earthworks, now commenced a rapid and well-directed fire, knocking over several of the Mandarin soldiers; upon which they immediately retreated to the nearest available shelters, continuing from thence the very spirited fire which they had kept up from the commencement of the assault; as, however, they were, with very few exceptions, armed with matchlocks alone, and were all barefooted, they could scarcely be expected to storm a series of formidable entrenchments protected by a species of "chevaux de frise," the surrounding ground being thickly studded with barbed-iron spikes, and therefore, after an inefficient attempt to induce a second assault, we retired, and returning on board the ship opened fire on the town at 4.30 P.M., the distance being 2,500 yards.

The firing was very good, and at one time the town was set on fire; this, however, was soon extinguished.

After an hour's firing I ceased, as by previous agreement with the Mandarin, to allow his troops to go in, and at dark they were still fighting.

At 10 P.M. I received the news that the Mandarin troops had been again repulsed, losing several men.

At 7 A.M. on the following day, 30th ultimo, I landed one of the 24-pounder howitzers, with a supply of ammunition, taking with me Mr. Herring, gunner, and a force of sixteen men, and accompanied by Mr. Thomson and Dr. Jones.

I got the gun into a very good position, and at a distance of about 600 yards, opened fire on the town, the shell bursting with admirable precision, and apparently doing good execution; at the same time I kept up a constant fire from twelve rifles, and the Mandarin troops assaulted, but were (notwithstanding our assistance) again repulsed with a good many wounded.

I would not take my men to the assault, as they were so few, and the defences of the town were remarkably strong—the garrison said to number 600 men. Moreover, we were already exposed to the fire of a gun (about an 8-pounder), which the enemy had got into a very good position, and with which they were making very good practice.

I am happy, however, to say none of my men were hit. At about 11 A.M., I had to send back for more ammunition, which was very promptly brought up to the front by Mr. W. Thomas, engineer; in the meantime another parley was requested from the town, which resulted in a promise to deliver the four men previously demanded at 8 A.M. on the following day. At that time I was waiting with a guard of six men at the spot appointed for the delivery of the prisoners, in order to conduct them in safety through the Mandarin lines to the ship, but after a messenger I sent in had been absent two hours, he returned with a letter saying it was, for various reasons, impossible to deliver these men until the following day.

I therefore returned on board, having first advised the Mandarin to procure swords and shoes for his men; and as Mr. Thomson was obliged to return, and I had no other reliable interpreter, I proceeded to Swatow, arriving at 6:30 P.M. on the 31st ultimo, and intending to report previous proceedings and ask for a reinforcement to carry out what had been begun on the 1st instant. However, Her Majesty's gun-boat "Drake," Lieutenant Crowdy, fortunately put in to Double Island for coals, and on my representing to him the above circumstances, he immediately determined to proceed on the following morning to Choo-chi.

As, up to this time, all proceedings had been carried on by me, and Lieutenant Crowdy is now anxious to proceed to his destination, he has ordered me to report all particulars. On the 2nd instant, accompanied by a respectable Chinese interpreter, I proceeded with the "Drake" in tow to Choo-chi, where we arrived at 4 P.M., and were at once visited by the Mandarin, who stated nothing had been done further in my absence.

We sent in a demand for the delivery of the town to the Mandarin, and Lieutenant Crowdy proceeded, accompanied by myself, to inspect the Mandarin lines.

At 10:30 P.M., an answer was brought that the town should be delivered the next morning at 7 A.M.; accordingly Lieutenant Crowdy, with Mr. C. Cater, navigating Sub-Lieutenant, Mr. Morley, gunner, Mr. Allison, engineer, and 10 men of the "Drake," accompanied by myself and Mr. W. Thomas, engineer, and 8 men of the "Bustard"—in all 24 officers and men—landed, and proceeded with the Mandarin to occupy Choo-chi, our force entering first and receiving first the submission of the townspeople.

We then proceeded to a yamen prepared for our reception, where the head men of the town came to deliver up their guns, &c., and again gave in their complete submission; the four men who had been claimed were, however, stated to have absconded, and their houses being pointed out were destroyed completely by the Mandarin troops. We remained in the town until we had seen the work of levelling all the earthworks and other defences thoroughly gone into by the Mandarin troops, and finding the town was stored with grain and sugar in large quantities, and consequently a wealthy one, we stipulated that the sum of 2,000 dollars shall be paid by them to the British Government, that being as nearly as we could judge the probable cost of coals, ammunition, &c., expended by us in this expedition.

This sum the Mandarin engaged to make them pay.

A close inspection of this place has, I am happy to say, confirmed me in my previous opinion that an assault with my few men would have been highly injudicious, as it was infinitely stronger than I had even imagined, and the works of a peculiarly intricate and difficult nature to anyone not previously acquainted with them.

We left Choo-chi at 5 o'clock this morning, and I arrived here at 9:30 A.M. The

"Drake" has not yet arrived, but appears to be at anchor about seven miles from this.

The behaviour of the officers and men concerned in this undertaking has been most exemplary and energetic.

I have much pleasure in mentioning the very valuable assistance I received in the first part of these proceedings from Mr. G. P. Thomson and Dr. C. M. Jones of this port, whose attention to the wounded Mandarin soldiers was untiring.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CECIL F. W. JOHNSON.

P.S.—A boat has just arrived from the "Drake" to say she has broken down, and I am about to proceed to her assistance.

C. F. W. J

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Acting Consul Thomson to Lieutenant and Commander Johnson.

Sir,

Swatow, July 27, 1868.

I HAVE received from the Taoutae a despatch in which he applies for the assistance of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard" in coercing a piratical and fortified village named Choo-chi, situated below Kit-yung.

The village holds certain Chinese to ransom, has been engaged in plundering native boats, and has put a stop to traffic on that part of the river.

The village is the same that fired, in November last, on Mr. Hutchings (the gun-boat's contractor) who was conveying provisions to the "Bustard" while at anchor up the river.

I have also received a despatch from the magistrate at Kit-yung, in which he informs me that some time ago he received instructions from the Taoutae to proceed against the village for firing on the boat in question, but that without foreign aid he is unable to coerce the villagers.

The magistrate at the same time desires to obtain the release of the Chinese held in confinement, and to punish those who have been guilty of the piratical acts above mentioned.

I have to remark that Mr. Caine has repeatedly pressed the Chinese authorities to punish the village for firing on the contractor's boat. They now declare their inability to do anything in the matter without the aid of Her Majesty's gun-boat; and although the Chinese authorities would not, perhaps, have been prepared to take steps against the village for the one act of firing on the contractor's boat, it appears to me impolitic to refuse aid on the ground that the Chinese have other matters of complaint against the village which do not immediately concern foreigners.

Under these circumstances I have the honour to request you to proceed to the village in question with the vessel under your command, and to render to the body of Imperial troops there assembled, such aid as you may deem expedient.

Should you see fit to comply with this request, I propose to myself to accompany you for the purpose of communicating with the Chinese authorities and the village, as it is impossible to obtain the services of any other trustworthy interpreters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. P. THOMSON.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, relative to the proceedings of Her Majesty's gun-boats "Drake" and "Bustard," in assisting the Chinese troops in the suppression of piracy in the River Han, and requesting to be informed whether the proceedings of Lieutenant Johnson of the "Bustard," in co-operating with those troops to reduce the fortified town of Choo-chi, should be approved.

In reply, I am to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of

the Admiralty, that under the peculiar circumstances of the case, and considering that Lieutenant Johnson was acting in co-operation with, and at the request of, the Chinese authorities, signified to him through the British Consular officer at Swatow, Lord Stanley is of opinion that his conduct should be approved; but his Lordship considers that, as a general rule, it is not desirable that British Naval Force should be employed to maintain the authority of the Chinese officials against refractory parties, unless such parties are actually engaged, or about to be engaged, in acts of piracy.

As regards the disposal of the 2,000 dollars exacted by Lieutenant Johnson from the inhabitants of Choo-chi, I am to state to you, that Lord Stanley is of opinion that it would have been better if Lieutenant Johnson had not levied this sum; but his Lordship considers that as it has been paid, it might be inconvenient to return it, and that the money had better be kept as a credit to the Admiralty in the public accounts.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND,

No. 3.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 25.)

Sir, *Admiralty, November 24, 1868.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 21st instant, conveying the opinion of Lord Stanley with regard to the proceedings of Her Majesty's gun-boats "Drake" and "Bustard," in assisting the Chinese troops in the suppression of piracy in the River Han, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of Lord Stanley, that they have caused the substance of your letter to be conveyed to Lieutenant Johnson of the "Bustard," through Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, but have informed that officer at the same time that they entirely disapprove of sums of money being received by officers commanding Her Majesty's ships, from Chinese of any class, without the authority of their Commander-in-chief, or the Board of Admiralty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 4.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 15.)

Sir, *Admiralty, December 14, 1868.*
WITH reference to Admiralty letter of the 24th ultimo, relative to the proceedings of Lieutenant Johnson, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Bustard," in co-operation with the Chinese military forces, for the suppression of piracy in the River Han, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel has informed them, by letter dated the 30th October, that, under the circumstances, he had waived the claim for 2,000 dollars made by Lieutenant Johnson on the Chinese authorities, to cover the expenses of the English gun-boats during the expedition, and had caused the amount already paid to be refunded.

My Lords have approved of the course adopted by the Vice-Admiral on this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 5.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 17, 1868.*
IN reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that his Lordship is glad to hear that Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel had, under the circumstances of

the case, waived the claim for 2,000 dollars, which was made by Lieutenant Johnson on the Chinese authorities to cover the expenses of Her Majesty's gun-boats employed in co-operation with the Chinese military forces for the suppression of piracy in the River Han.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Correspondence respecting the Suppression of Piracy in the River Han.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1½d.*]

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

OUTRAGE ON BRITISH MERCHANTS

AT

BANCA, IN FORMOSA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting Outrage on British Merchants at Banca, in Formosa.

No. 1.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 17.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 16, 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, an extract of a letter from Vice-Admiral Honourable Sir H. Keppel, dated the 31st October, relative to the state of affairs at Formosa, and the measures taken by him for the protection of British subjects and property in those ports.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

October 31, 1868.

ON the 21st instant I dispatched the "Dwarf" to Foo-chow for service at that port, and in the northern portion of Formosa. The "Algerine" left the same day for Takao in the Taiwan district of that island, where affairs are in an unsatisfactory state, as reported in an earlier letter. At Banca in Formosa, an unprovoked attack has been made by the mob on some English merchants, who were much injured.

I am waiting instructions from Her Majesty's Minister in respect to the action that appears inevitable to support our Treaty rights, as the constant outrages are clearly to be traced to the instigation of Government officials. In the meantime, the "Slaney," "Algerine," "Dwarf," and "Bustard," will be stationed at Formosa.

No. 2.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 14, 1869.)

My Lord,

Peking, November 30, 1868.

IN forwarding the inclosed correspondence, I have the honour to call your Lordship's attention to the judgment and firmness displayed by Mr. Holt, in so promptly obtaining reparation for an outrage on British subjects, which, had it not been at once punished, would most certainly have led to farther serious complications in our relations with the authorities and people of that island.

This is not the first time Mr. Holt, as a junior officer, has merited my approval; and I have much pleasure in bringing his action on the present occasion, especially under your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Tamsuy, October 14, 1868.

IT is with great regret that I have to inform your Excellency that the anti-English element is again in the ascendant here, and that matters have assumed so serious an aspect that I may be driven at any moment to haul down my flag and cease communication with the authorities. I am aware that this is an extreme measure, but I assure your Excellency that I shall only resort to it when I shall have exhausted every resource left to me—and indeed but few remain. Remonstrance, expostulation, despatches, letters, messages, and visits have alike failed in insuring common justice; and our very lives are now threatened by people whose recent course of action has been so atrocious as to prove that the will is not wanting to murder us. In the case which I am now compelled to bring to your Excellency's notice they have done their best to effect that crime.

In 1867 Messrs. Dodd and Co. leased a hong called the "Loktow" hong, at Banca, from Wansoon, widow of a man named Loktow. They had so much difficulty in obtaining possession of their leased property that they addressed me on the subject, under date 26th July, 1868, requesting my assistance in the matter. I herewith forward copy of his letter.

I accordingly addressed the Haekwan on the subject, remonstrating against the obstacles thrown in the way of Messrs. Dodd and Co., and demanding that the property be handed over to them. Translation of my despatch I inclose.

On the 2nd instant I received a reply from the Haekwan, translation of which I beg to forward, informing me that the seals had been removed from the doors of the hong in question, and that Messrs. Dodd and Co. were at liberty to enter into possession. I forward copy of my letter to Messrs. Dodd and Co., consequent upon this communication, telling them they were at liberty to occupy said hong.

On the morning of the 12th instant, in consequence of information received by them from their agent at Banca that some opposition on the part of certain factions was being made to their entering the hong, Messrs. Crawford, O'Kerr, the present managing partner, and S. Godfrey Bird, of the said firm, went up to Banca to enter into possession of their new premises, when, without the slightest provocation on their part, they were assailed in the most dastardly manner by a ferocious mob of people, who, rushing out from various places of concealment, attacked them with guns, knives, spears, bamboos, and huge stones, robbed them of all they possessed, and did their best to kill them. They managed, half dead, to crawl to the yamên of the Tamsuy-ting, who, as usual, was absent, and whose underlings endeavoured to force them back into the hands of the mob outside. They, however, succeeded in remaining where they were, the only attention they received being at the hands of certain shipwrecked Lew-chewan sailors, now detained as prisoners at the yamên, who bathed their heads and washed the blood from them.

I forward copies of Messrs. Dodd and Co.'s letters, reporting the assault, and of the medical certificates showing how seriously they were injured.

With the greatest difficulty, and after a considerable lapse of time, they managed to get some chairs and an escort, and wounded, bleeding, and scarcely conscious, the representatives of the only British merchants in the port, representing, however, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., and a great number of other highly influential firms, were carried through streets lined with crowds of eager spectators, and taken to their boats in which they returned to Tamsuy.

Some of their property, which they were carrying to their new premises, had to be abandoned in the streets; both their hong's are quite at the mercy of the people, being quite unprotected, and the gates of Banca are closed against us, so that their business is nearly at a standstill.

I need not say that their prestige, as well as mine, has vanished; in proof of which I may remark that the hostile clans have, unopposed by the Tamsuy-ting, who does not come near the place, or by any other authority, seized on their new hong, cut loopholes in the walls for muskets, and are raising a subscription of so large a sum as 50 per cent. on the incomes of the gentry of the hostile factions "in order to fright the English and drive them from the port." I believe the origin of this hatred against us to be the destruction of the camphor monopoly, which I have now nearly succeeded in putting an end to.

The card and letter which I gave to Messrs. Kerr and Bird to hand in to the Tamsuy-ting's yamên were ignored, the Chai-pu declaring that unless they received a squeeze they would do nothing, and they did nothing. It is a fact that, the Tamsuy-ting being absent, Banca, the chief town of the district, is without a single civil officer.

On the same evening, the 12th instant, having no other means of communication, I dispatched a small boat to Foo-chow to request that the gun-boat would immediately come across to render us material assistance in obtaining prompt redress for the gross injuries inflicted on British subjects, and to restore that prestige which we have now lost. I trust that the gun-boat will arrive in a few days, and I shall then concert measures with her Commander for endeavouring to enforce that justice which is otherwise denied us.

A Treaty exists between Great Britain and China, a so-called civilized country, and, according to it, "Justice shall be equitably and impartially administered on both sides." In this place, at least, justice is never administered at all; and of the numerous cases which I have had to bring before the Chinese authorities I have only obtained redress in one or two, and those of the most paltry description, such as the recovery of sums of 3 dollars and so forth. A despatch, which I shall soon be compelled to address to your Excellency, will show the way in which justice is perverted in important matters.

I cannot believe that of the two Parties to the Treaty the civilized one is to be tied down to a scrupulous fulfilment of every Article of it, while the semi-civilized one is to derive all the advantages of it, and yet be enabled to conveniently ignore it on every occasion on which it is called upon to carry out its rules, and that there shall be no redress against it other than indignant remonstrance on paper. Are our merchants to be swindled out of large sums of money with the connivance of the authorities, and their lives to be threatened, and nearly taken, at mid-day in the streets of the capital of the district, and nothing to result from it but a despatch, an appeal, and then, perhaps, at an interval of some months, a reprimand or removal of the authorities to some other post? I will not believe it, and I trust that your Excellency will not disapprove when I say that, short of destruction of life and property, I intend using any means in my power to enforce that justice that people here who are supposed to administer it deny me.

On the arrival of the gun-boat I will at once inform your Excellency of the measures concerted between the Commander and myself.

I take this opportunity of requesting that you will urge on the Admiral commanding the station the absolute necessity of a gun-boat being permanently placed here, or, each month, to change with that at Foo-chow, whereby our despatches and mails could be regularly forwarded and received. Last year I made application to the Admiral, but was refused, at least, for the time being; with the new gun-boats coming out, however, surely one might be spared. The temporary visits of the Foo-chow gun-boat only partially assist us; witness this occasion:—

The "Janus" left here on Thursday last, and on the following Monday, there not being a single ship in harbour, I am compelled to risk sending a small boat across the channel to recall her for the protection of our lives. The hostile feeling against us is daily increasing, being fostered by some of the wealthy native merchants, and will continue so to do as the winter months draw on, when so many people are thrown out of work. As I have before remarked, an extensive subscription is being raised that a body of braves may be assembled to fight the English; and I beg now most distinctly to state that the lives of the handful of foreigners here will be unsafe if we do not receive immediate and constant protection.

Lastly, I would call your Excellency's attention to the necessity of appointing a higher Chinese official here.

On the 8th October, 1867, in my despatch to your Excellency, I pointed this out, and requested you would use your influence in causing the Peking authorities to nominate the present Haekwan, Fung, an expectant Taoutae, to be full Taoutae, and invest him with full powers as such, making him independent of the Tamsuy-Ting, and, in fact, his superior. The Foo-chow authorities, to whom the question was referred, have evaded the point, declaring that he is a Taoutae, and that what I done has already been done. This is not what I wanted, and they know it. What is wanted is a Taoutae for the northern end of Formosa, having the same jurisdiction and authority as the Taoutae at Taiwan. There should be two Taoutaes, one for the south, and the other for the north end of Formosa. The Tamsuy-Ting's district is a great deal too large for him to manage, and the number of his subordinate officials is miserably inadequate.

I therefore respectfully request that your Excellency will urge upon the Foreign Board the necessity of civil reform in this island, and the desirability of a full Taoutae having supreme authority being appointed for the north end of the island, having equal rank and power with the Taiwan Taoutae; and I again beg to recommend the present expectant Taoutae, Haekwan and International Officer, Fung Ching-leang, for the post.

Your, &c.

(Signed) H. F. HOLT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Messrs. Dodd and Co. to Acting Vice-Consul Holt.

Sir,

Banca, July 26, 1868.

INCLOSED we beg to hand you two Chinese agreements of the rental of a hong in this town, together with a plan of said hong.

This hong, built in 1864 by a wealthy merchant of the name of Lok-Tow (quondam local camphor monopolist), was left on his demise to his widow, of the name of Mansoon.

In 1867 the writer made an offer to rent the Lok-Tow hong at the rate specified in the agreement. At first the widow hesitated, fearing that she would be persecuted by the then camphor mandarin, who was particularly hostile towards the Pao Shun hong, and was at the time her next door neighbour. She notwithstanding accepted earnest money in the shape of 30 dollars, promising not to let the hong to any one but the writer.

Later on a proper agreement was signed, stamped and witnessed; also bargain money paid, viz., 50 dollars. We are unable to enter the hong, as we understand the mandarins have placed their seals on the doors and gates.

The poor widow has been persecuted by the Banca Mandarins ever since the death of her husband, and squeezed most unmercifully for imaginary fees said to be due on camphor shipped away to Hong Kong during the lifetime of Low-Tow.

If on examination of inclosed documents you consider that we have a just and lawful right to occupy the hong, we shall feel greatly obliged by your communicating with the local authorities on the subject, urging them to place no obstacles in the way of our doing so. We may mention that the widow is willing to abide by terms of the agreement, but is afraid that the mandarins will squeeze her still the more.

Requesting you to give this matter your early attention, it being of utmost importance to enter the hong as soon as possible.

Your, &c.
(Signed) DODD AND Co.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to Fung Ching-Leang, Haekwan and International Officer.

September 7, 1868.

ON the 26th of July I received a letter from Messrs. Dodd and Co., British merchants of this port, as follows:—That in 1864 a hong was built at Banca by a wealthy merchant of the name of Lok-Tow, formerly a camphor monopolist, who at his death left it to his widow, named Man-soon.

In 1867 Messrs. Dodd and Co., desiring to lease said hong, drew up an agreement of rent with the widow. At first, because the then camphor monopolist greatly disliked Messrs. Dodd and Co., the widow hesitated to enter into this agreement, but she afterwards received bargain money, and promised not to let the hong to any one but the Pao Shun hong.

The agreement was subsequently drawn up *in extenso*, signed, sealed, and witnessed, and further bargain money paid. In spite of all these doings, however, the said Messrs. Dodd and Co., are unable to enter upon the premises they have leased, in consequence of the local authorities having placed seals on the doors and gates.

On receipt of this letter I examined the Treaty, and find that by the XIth Article British merchants are entitled to rent houses, &c., and by the XIIth Article to open warehouses, &c.

This Treaty was made for the mutual guidance of both parties to it, and if its provisions are not strictly complied with the greatest difficulties must inevitably arise.

In the present instance the right of British merchants to rent houses in Treaty ports is being violated, and an impediment is placed upon their trade. As this is directly contravening the Treaty, I must request your Excellency, as international officer, to take immediate steps to cause these seals to be removed from the doors of the said hong, and trust that either to-morrow or the next day I shall learn from your Excellency that all obstacles have been removed, and that Messrs. Dodd and Co., are free to enter into the premises which they have leased.

I trust that at least it will not be necessary for me to add this case, which has arisen

from the action of the local authorities alone, to the long list of questions in dispute which have so long remained unsettled.

(Signed) H. F. HOLT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to Messrs. Dodd and Co.

Gentlemen,

Tamsuy, October 2, 1868.

IN reply to your official letter to me of the 26th July, 1868, in reference to the rental by you of a hong at Banca, built in 1864 by a camphor merchant named Lok-tow, now in the possession of his widow, Mansoon, and which you are unable to enter as you understand the mandarins have placed their seals "on the doors and gates," I have the honour to inform you that I have just received a despatch from his Excellency Fung, the Haekwan and International Officer, giving me to understand that these seals have been removed, and consequently there will be no impediment in the way of your taking over the said hong at your convenience.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOLT.

Inclosure 5 in No. 2 .

Fung, Haekwan and International Officer of Tamsuy, to Acting Vice-Consul Holt.

(Translation.)

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 22nd day of the 7th moon (No. 14 of the 7th September), relative to the difficulty placed in the way of Messrs. Dodd and Co. in occupying the Lok-tow hong (see Inclosure No. 2). I at once communicated with the local authorities, and requested them to reply to me on this subject. On the 12th day of the 8th moon (27th September), I received a reply from Fuh, the Tamsuy-Ting, informing me that he had received from the Taiwan Taoutae a memorandum, and also had had a weiyuen dispatched to him instructing him to recover from Hwang-chwang certain moneys in connection with the camphor monopoly due to the former Taoutae, Hung. The money had constantly been applied for, but in vain. Hence his premises had been sealed up till the debt was recovered. Hwang Chwang-sze being now willing to fix a time within which to repay the debt, although the money is not paid, there is no objection to removing the seal, and Tamsuy-Ting accordingly forwards this reply to me.

I have received this reply, and accordingly communicate to you in order that you may act upon it and that the case may be terminated.

Tung-chi, 7th year 8th moon 15th day (30th September, 1868).

Inclosure 6 in No. 2.

Certificates.

I HEREBY certify that I have this day examined Crawford D. Kerr, Esq., Acting United States Commercial Agent, and British merchant at the ports of Tamsuy and Keelung, and find him suffering from severe and extensive contused wounds of the body generally, in addition to a lacerated wound over the left temple. The latter wound, I am informed, was caused by the throwing of a large and heavy stone, most providentially at short range, as otherwise the most serious consequences might have been apprehended.

When first summoned to attend Mr. Kerr, he presented the appearance of having been subjected to the most disgraceful and violent treatment, as evidenced by the condition of his clothes, which were cut, torn, and covered with mud.

(Signed) WM. HEN. HOZIER, M.D.

Tamsuy, Formosa, October 12, 1868.

I HEREBY certify that I have this day examined Godfrey Bird, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Dodd and Co., Tamsuy.

I find him suffering from extensive contused wounds, namely, one over the right and one over the left scapula, one two inches in extent over the seventh cervical vertebra, one over the right lumbar mass of muscles, and another over the anterior superior spinous process of the ilium.

In addition, there are incised and punctured wounds of both hands, and a contused wound of scalp over the right temporal bone.

He is suffering very much from exhaustion and shock in consequence of these injuries.

(Signed)

WM. HEN. HOZIER, M.D.

Tamsuy, Formosa, October 12, 1868.

Inclosure 7 in No. 2.

Messrs. Dodd and Co. to Acting Vice-Consul Holt.

Sir,

Tamsuy, October 13, 1868.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated 2nd instant informing us that there remained no impediment in the way of our taking over at our convenience the hong at Banca known as the Loktow hong.

In accordance with such notice, we gave orders to our compradore to take possession of said hong, which orders he proceeded to carry out. On attempting to place a man in charge of the hong he was immediately turned out by the orders of the head man of the Huang-hsing clan. The names of these head men are as follows—Huang An-chow, Huang Keng-hsia, and Huang Shui and Huang Tien-tzu. The reason assigned for this conduct was that the owner of the Loktow hong had not in some way settled matters with the above clan. On learning this, the writer, Mr. Crawford D. Kerr, managing our firm, verbally communicated with you, and received a letter from you accompanied with your card.

In conjunction with Mr. S. Godfrey Bird, also in our firm, Mr. Kerr proceeded to Banca, and forwarded your card and letter to the Tamsuy-Ting's yamên. The reply to this was to the effect that the Tamsuy-Ting was absent at Teukchan, and that the persons left in charge of the civil police declined to act without payment of a squeeze. Not believing that the Chinese would oppose an entrance to a hong on which a five-years' lease had been taken out and advance rent paid, the above two gentlemen, accompanied by their compradore, proceeded to the Loktow hong for the purpose of finding out how matters really stood.

On arriving at the gate of the court-yard of the hong, they found it barred and a small wicket fastened with a nail: this wicket Mr. Kerr forced open without much effort. This appeared to be the signal for a movement on the part of the coolies, for out of the adjoining houses and neighbourhood appeared a number of coolies, estimated at 500 men, who immediately made a deadly assault on the two gentlemen with stones, bamboos, spears, and pikes. An attempt at immediate flight was made, but before they had gone many yards Mr. Bird was struck down by a stone and cruelly hurt with musket and spear points. He managed to rise and struggle on a few yards. Mr. Kerr was then struck to the ground by a large stone, which inflicted a severe wound on the head. Both gentlemen continued to rise and struggle as far as about fifty yards, till they reached the precincts of the Mandarin's yamên, fortunately so close; but before doing so they were struck down several times and heavily beaten with bamboos and spears, the latter being very blunt. One ruffian attempted to dash out Mr. Bird's brains as he lay on the ground with a heavy stone, which he lifted above his head with both hands, but fortunately missed him. Mr. Kerr fell into a cesspool, forced in by a severe blow of a musket butt in the back. His face on entering the yamên was covered with blood and mud. But for the friendly aid manifested by a few of the coolies, who raised the two gentlemen from the ground on several occasions, but who could not prevent the blows, neither would have reached the yamên alive; on attaining which refuge both fell down with exhaustion and wounds.

It was long before they had sufficiently recovered to be taken away in chairs and carried to a place of safety. Mr. Kerr was robbed of his revolver, watch-chain, keys, and hat; Mr. Bird losing revolver and hat only.

We would wish to remark on the almost total want of manifestation of assistance rendered by the Mandarin's people; when entering the yamên they apparently wished to

put these gentlemen out again, and they were mainly indebted for succour to some Foo-chow junkmen in the hong at the time.

The clan above referred to have sworn to kill our compradore, and attack our other hong, besides declaring that they will die sooner than allow us to take possession of the Loktow hong. Our compradore has fled to Tamsuy, and our business is so interrupted that we are unable to sell either opium or piece goods.

We most urgently call your attention to this matter, and trust that the most stringent punishment will be inflicted on the said clan. Our claim against the persons concerned for robbery and attempt to murder, besides the total cessation of our trade at this port, is as follows:—2,000 dollars for violence to Messrs. Kerr and Bird; 3,000 dollars for forcibly taking possession of our hong and total cessation of our business.

We would mention that neither Mr. Kerr nor Mr. Bird committed any act of violence beyond what is recounted above.

We have, &c.
(Signed) DODD AND Co.

P.S.—Since writing to-day we learn that the hostile clan have pierced the walls of the Loktow hong for guns, and have raised a subscription to pay coolies to fight foreigners.

DODD AND Co.

Inclosure 8 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Tamsuy, October 27, 1868.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 14th instant, on the subject of the assault perpetrated on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, of the firm of Dodd and Co., of this port, at Banca on the 12th instant, I have much gratification in informing your Excellency that I have succeeded in obtaining full justice. Our prestige is restored, and I do not think it likely that there will be any more disturbances here of a similar nature.

I now beg to lay before your Excellency the details of the case, showing how these satisfactory results have been obtained.

On the 15th instant, the Tamsuy-Ting, who had heard of my having sent for assistance, hurried down from Teukechan, intending to call upon me, and upon Messrs. Dodd and Co. I sent word to the Hackwan, stating that the Ting must not call upon a private firm on a matter of public business, and that he must excuse me if I declined seeing him. While desiring to be on the most friendly terms with the authorities, I could not discuss the question with them until I had officially addressed them on the subject, and this I had not yet done.

My reason for not at once bringing the affair forward officially, was that I intended making certain demands, which I was convinced would be refused, unless I had a force to support me by its presence. I waited anxiously during several days for the appearance of the gun-boat, but in consequence of the bad weather which had prevailed for some time, it was not until the 22nd that she arrived. By a happy coincidence, the United States' gun-boat "Aroostook" had arrived about two hours previously.

I at once proceeded on board the "Janus," and explained the state of affairs to Lieutenant-Commander Keppel, and read to him a despatch and list of demands which I proposed addressing to the local authorities, to which he gave his entire approval.

At 11 P.M., therefore, on this day, I sent in the despatch which forms my first inclosure, making a series of demands which I trust your Excellency, looking at the circumstances of the case, will not consider excessive. I asked for compensation to Messrs. Dodd and Co. for stoppage of business, injuries and loss of prestige; an apology to myself for affronts offered; the punishment of the instigators of the aggression, and of those who actually committed the assault; and that the authorities should take measures to prevent a recurrence of such acts.

It is needless that I should occupy your Excellency's time with a detail of what subsequently took place. It was but a succession of interchange of visits, notes, and messages. Suffice it to say, that after many concessions made on both sides, the following conditions were agreed to, the Chinese authorities wisely seeking, and permitting themselves to be guided by, the advice of General Le Gendre, the American Consul for Amoy and Formosa, who crossed over in the United States' gun-boat "Aroostook," for the purpose of watching American interests:—

1. The Tamsuy-Ting shall this day address a despatch to the Haekwan, stating that the affront offered at Banca to the Vice-Consul's card has been punished by the dismissal of the offending servants; and that had the Tamsuy-Ting been present in Banca at the time, the servants would never have dared to use such words, or to act as they did.

2. The assault on Messrs Kerr and Bird by the Hwang-chan was decidedly wrong. Four of the principal ringleaders have been taken and punished, and during the space of one month from this date will be kept in cangues in front of the Tamsuy-Ting's office.

3. The Tamsuy-Ting will issue a Proclamation, instructing the people to be on friendly terms with foreigners and to conduct their business with them amicably. Three copies will be issued to-morrow; one to be given to Messrs. Dodd and Co., which they may cause to be cut on stone, one to be put up in the public street, and the third to be delivered to Mr. Holt, Her Majesty's Acting Vice Consul.

4. Hwang Chang-she (Mansoon) had no right to the property in dispute; and in taking it upon herself to lease it without the necessary regard for the opinions and desires of her relatives, has committed a grave fault, for which she must pay a fine of 3,000 dollars within the next month, his Excellency the Hackwan guaranteeing the amount.

5. Messrs. Dodd and Co. are requested to send in an account for certain pieces of goods, &c., which were lost during the time of the assault and since that period, in order that the value may be made good to them.

6. For the assault on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, the Hwang-chan has been fined 1,000 dollars.

7. At Banca there are only police-runners; it is therefore necessary to inform the heads of the people that they must exercise their authority on the people of their respective wards, and must cause friendly relations to be entertained towards foreigners. Supposing any troubles occasionally arise, the matter must be immediately reported at the Tamsuy-Ting's office, in order that the matter may be impartially investigated by him in conjunction with the Vice-Consul; a copy of the bond to be entered into by the head man shall be sent to the Vice-Consul.

I am much indebted in the conduct of this affair to Lieutenant Commanding, Leicester C. Keppel, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Janus," of whose promptitude in responding to my appeal for assistance, and cordial co-operation in all that has been done, I cannot speak too highly.

I have been much indebted to Lieutenant Commander Bradford, of the United States' gun-boat "Aroostook," for the moral support which he has afforded me by the presence of his vessel pending the settlement of this affair.

To General Le Gendre my thanks are also due for the delicate manner in which he has interested himself in this case. The Chinese authorities have on several occasions asked his advice as to the course they should pursue, and he has throughout counselled them with a view to the proper adjustment of this matter. I have thought it my duty to address him a letter of thanks, copy of which I beg to inclose.

In conclusion I would fain hope that your Excellency will be pleased to regard my proceedings with approbation, for I have had a very difficult duty to perform, and one which has necessarily caused me great anxiety. In a remote corner of the Empire where authority is weak, and the people arrogant, turbulent, and I might say, all powerful, a serious outrage has been committed on two of our countrymen. Supported by Lieutenant Commander Keppel I have succeeded without force or violence, or even a threat of them, without oppressive measures of any sort, without destruction of life or property, without even a break in my friendly relations with the authorities, in securing, by moral pressure, what may fairly be considered as ample compensation for the outrage inflicted on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, and the injury done to the business of Messrs. Dodd and Co.

I have throughout persistently declared my desire to be friendly with the authorities and people, and that I only demanded justice against one particular clan. With both one and the other I am on perfectly good terms, and our prestige has never stood higher here than it does at the present moment at the termination of the proceedings.

Your, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOLT.

Inclosure 9 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to Fung, Haekwan and International Officer, Tamsuy.

Sir,

Tamsuy, October 22, 1868.

ON the 13th instant I received a communication from Messrs. Dodd and Co., reporting that a most cruel outrage had been perpetrated on the previous day at Banca, on the persons of Mr. Kerr, managing partner of the said firm, and Mr. Bird, also belonging to the house.

On the 12th day on which the murder of Messrs. Kerr and Bird was attempted, I received a letter from Mr. Kerr, informing me of the case, and requesting me to go and see him. I found him in tatters, like a beggar, his clothes cut to pieces with spears, and covered with mud and blood, his body all bruises and cuts, and his head and face bruised and swollen from the stones which had struck him, Mr. Bird being still worse, and unable to move. I brought Mr. Kerr alone to your yamên in his then condition, in order that you should see for yourself that in officially reporting this to your Excellency I should not exaggerate the affair. As soon as you had seen Mr. Kerr he retired, being unable through exhaustion to remain longer, and I then proceeded to detail to your Excellency every circumstance, and produced your own despatch authorizing me to inform Messrs. Dodd and Co. that they could enter into possession of the Loktow hong, in endeavouring to do which this gross outrage has resulted: a premeditated one, the details of which were prearranged; one which must have been known to the people in the yamên was intended, which they took no steps to prevent; and to the unfortunate victims of which, when it had been committed, they refused assistance and endeavoured to turn them back to the fury of the mob. It is impossible that this powerful clan, hostile to foreigners, should have been able to hire 500 assassins to murder two unoffending Englishmen without its being known, and the authorities should have taken preventive measures. Before the assault was committed,—before Messrs. Kerr and Bird had proceeded to the hong which they were authorized by you to take possession of,—my card and a letter had been sent to the yamên of the chief magistrate of Banca, requesting assistance, and had been ignored, and myself spoken of as a nonentity: a bribe was required before anything could be done.

I have delayed making this official communication until now, because, in the absence of a man-of-war I should have been unable to obtain full justice in this case.

A series of acts inimical to British merchants, for which justice has been often demanded and contemptuously ignored, have accumulated. The culminating point has been reached when murder has been attempted in the open streets at midday. Civil remedies have been tried in vain; despatches, letters, messages, and interviews have failed in producing any effect. I have done all that the Treaty requires me to do, and more. It is the local authorities who have failed in fulfilling the Treaty, not I, and for the consequences they must be responsible.

I am aware that, since it is known that I have sent for the gun-boat, an unusual activity has prevailed, and various small claims that ought to have been settled months ago, are now only being arranged. It is not on account of these that I seek supporting force. Higher interests are now at stake,—our moral position, our lives. We cannot afford to be a laughing-stock and a scorn to every pedlar who walks the streets of Banca, and have our lives at the mercy of every cut-throat in the pay of the semi-savage clans.

I now therefore demand:—

1. An apology offered to me from the Tamsuy-Ting for the affront offered to me on the morning of the 12th October, in his office at Banca.

2. The punishment of the Hwang clan, and of the head men named in the margin.

3. That for the serious injuries on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, for the entire stoppage of their trade, and for the loss of prestige which they have sustained, the local authorities shall compel from the Hwang clan a payment of 5,000 dollars to be made to Messrs. Dodd and Co.

4. The issue by the Tamsuy-Ting of a Proclamation, denouncing the late assault on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, to be cut in a stone tablet, ordering the people to pay every respect to foreign merchants trading at Banca, and within the Tamsuy district, and threatening severe punishment in the event of their being molested.

5. That all the personal property stolen on the occasion of the assault, be returned or amply compensated for.

6. That the authorities shall use their utmost diligence in arresting as many of the assailants of Messrs. Kerr and Bird as they can, and that they shall all be severely punished and imprisoned.

7. That both their old hong and the Loktow hong shall be restored to Messrs. Dodd and Co. without delay, and full compensation made for such goods as may be missing.

8. That on the day on which the authorities notify that the Loktow hong is ready to be delivered over to Messrs. Dodd and Co., the Tamsuy-Ting, the Commander of the man-of-war, with his guard and myself, accompanied by Messrs. Kerr and Bird, with twelve of the principal leaders of the late assault in heavy cangues, shall proceed to the said hong through the same streets which they were driven through; and that the said hong shall be formally delivered over to them; and the twelve men be kept in cangues in front of the said hong for one month from the date of entry under a guard of soldiers.

9. That a guard of soldiers be stationed at Banca, to prevent Messrs. Dodd and Co.'s agents being again assaulted.

If these conditions are not fulfilled precisely by 10 o'clock in the morning of the 27th instant, I shall at once be compelled to take other measures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOLT.

Inclosure 10 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Holt to General Le Gendre.

Sir,

Tamsuy, October 27, 1868,

BEFORE you leave Tamsuy on your return to Amoy, I feel called upon to express my obligations to Captain Bradford of the United States' steam-ship "Aroostook," and yourself, for the interest which you have taken in the case of the late assault on certain members of the British firm of Dodd and Co. at this port.

To Captain Bradford my thanks are due for the great moral support afforded in this matter by the presence of his vessel here during the settlement of the above case; and I have to offer you my most sincere thanks for the delicate manner in which, as the Consul of a friendly Power, you have aided me in bringing to a successful conclusion a matter of grave importance, and in obtaining from the Chinese authorities admissions and securities which will in future insure immunity from violence to every respectable foreigner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOLT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 2.

Sir R. Alcock to Acting Vice-Consul Holt.

Sir,

Peking, November 23, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatches of October 14 and 27 respectively, and I entirely approve the measures taken by you as reported therein. But I should be glad to have some further information as to the heavy fine of 3,000 dollars laid on the widow who let the house, and whether you were quite satisfied that this was a right and proper step to take.

It will give me great pleasure to bring your conduct in this matter to the favourable notice of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Your, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 17, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of November, inclosing copies of correspondence with Mr. Holt in regard to the outrage committed on Messrs. Kerr and Bird, British subjects at Banca, and reporting the steps he had taken with a view to obtain reparation from the Chinese authorities for that outrage.

I have to instruct you to inform Mr. Holt that Her Majesty's Government approve his conduct in this matter; and it is a great satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government to think that by his judicious management he has succeeded in obtaining redress without

employing force, which was not called for by the state of affairs when Her Majesty's gun-boat "Janus" arrived, immediate danger being at an end, and the matter, therefore, being one for which redress was to be obtained at Peking.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON

CHINA. No. 6 (1869).

Correspondence respecting Outrage on
British Merchants at Banca, in For-
mosa.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

} Price 2d. }

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CHINA. No. 7 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

ATTACK ON BOATS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP
“COCKCHAFFER”

BY

VILLAGERS NEAR SWATOW.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting Attack on Boats of Her Majesty's
ship "Cockchafer" by Villagers near Swatow.

No. 1.

Consul Robertson to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 9.)

Sir,

Canton, January 24, 1869.

I HAVE time only to send a few lines so say that a gun-boat arrived this morning with despatches for the Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, who is staying here with me, saying that the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" were exercising in the river above Swatow, and on passing a large village called Outang-pai were pelted with stones and insulted. Lieutenant Kerr, commanding the "Cockchafer," landed for the purpose of communicating with the elders of the village and remonstrating. He found a respectable-looking individual whom he requested to take him to the elder's house, but he refused; Lieutenant Kerr then said he should detain him, and the man threw himself on the ground. Upon this the villagers turned out and opened fire upon the party; in fact they were surrounded and took to the boats under a very heavy fire, by which the gunner, boatswain's mate, and one seaman were dangerously wounded and seven seamen slightly. I went as soon as possible to see the Viceroy, and the result of the interview is that the Viceroy will dispatch one of his gun-boats, with deputed officers on board, to demand the surrender of the actors in this attack, and co-operate with a naval force of Her Majesty's ships which will be at once dispatched from Hong Kong. In any operations which circumstances may render necessary, the Admiral will himself proceed there. These villages are fortified and independent of Imperial authority, and are neither more nor less than a lawless set of thieves. As nothing will be done except in strict accordance and in co-operation with the Chinese authorities, there is no cause for uneasiness; and an exhibition of force will doubtless produce a wholesome effect upon the minds of the lawless population of Swatow and Chao-chow-foo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

No. 2.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 20.)

Sir,

Admiralty, March 20, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 23rd of January, reporting an attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" by piratical villages on the banks of the River Han, near Swatow, and stating the course he proposes to pursue in consequence thereof.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rodney," at Hong Kong, January 23, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter which has just reached me from Lieutenant Howard Kerr, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," at Swatow, accompanied by a second letter from Her Majesty's Consul at that port.

2. These letters will acquaint their Lordships with the circumstances of an attack made on the boats of the "Cockchafer" by the piratical inhabitants of the village of Outang-pai, when away exercising in a creek leading from Swatow to the Treaty port of Chao-chow-foo, resulting in the gunner and boatswain's mate being dangerously wounded, five men seriously and three slightly wounded.

3. No other course than that adopted by Lieutenant Kerr could well have been followed at the moment.

4. It is apparent that these villages must be punished, not merely for this, but for repeated outrages seriously interfering with our Treaty rights of trade at Chao-chow-foo.

5. It is my intention to at once proceed to Canton, with a view of communicating, through Her Majesty's Consul, with the Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, within whose jurisdiction I believe Swatow and its neighbourhood to be situated.

6. Should his Excellency express the ability and intention of at once punishing the perpetrators of this gross outrage on the British flag, I will confine my co-operation to affording him the means of transport for his troops; should, however, the means at his command not be sufficient for the purpose, it would appear to be my duty to assist him in bringing these piratical villagers to a sense of their position.

7. The presence in this harbour of the "Rodney," "Adventure," "Perseus," "Rinaldo," and smaller vessels, places a force at my disposal ample for the occasion.

8. In conclusion, I may add that Her Majesty's Minister in China, apparently anticipating an event such as has occurred, wrote to me on the 25th June, 1867, with reference to a survey being made of the River Han and approaches to Chao-chow-foo:—

"Should any opposition be offered, as it can only come from piratical and insurgent villages, the gun-boats will be at full liberty to expel any attack or put down any opposition made to their progress."

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Lieutenant and Commander Kerr to Commodore Jones.

Sir,

"Cockchafer," Swatow, January 21, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that yesterday I proceeded up the creek leading from Swatow to Chao-chow-foo in the boats for exercise, and that on our return, while passing the village of Outang-pai, we were assailed with stones thrown from behind the bank of the river.

2. As this has frequently occurred to foreigners passing up and down creeks in the neighbourhood of Swatow, I landed with men to see the chief man of the village, and to insist on such unjustifiable proceedings being stopped.

3. A short distance from the place the stones came from we found a respectably dressed man, whom I desired through an interpreter to show me the way to the chief man's house.

4. He refused, saying that the chief man was away, so I told him if he refused to comply with my request I should detain him and carry him down to the mandarin at Swatow.

5. He then tried to run away, and as he was not allowed to do so he threw himself upon the ground.

6. The alarm had already been given in the village, and numbers of men with spears and fire-arms assembled and commenced to fire upon us.

7. We returned the fire, and in a short time drove them back.

8. We then returned to the boats, but had not gone far when the men in great numbers from the neighbouring villages commenced to fire upon us from behind the embankment of the creek.

9. When driven back from one position, they soon reappeared further down the creek, and so kept up a running fight for about two miles.

10. I have not been able to ascertain with any precision the number of men engaged against us; but from all accounts it could not have been less than 500.

11. I sincerely regret to state that Mr. Ley, gunner, and William Grayling, boatswain's mate, are dangerously wounded, five men seriously, and three slightly wounded.

12. We had three boats engaged—this vessel's gig and cutter and a gig belonging to the consulate manned by our men, in all twenty-three men and officers.

13. I cannot but in justice say that Mr. Ley, gunner, and William Grayling, boatswain's mate, who had charge of the cutter and Consular gig, showed the utmost coolness and gallantry, and that all the men opposed by such overwhelming numbers behaved admirably.

14. I have since heard that the village where the attack was first made upon us has been notorious for its hostility to foreigners, and that Mr. Wingate, United States' Consul at this port, was insulted there a few days ago on his return from Chao-chow-foo.

15. I do not think it is possible for a gun-boat to go up the creek as far as the village; but I am gathering as much information on the subject as possible.

16. The village of Outang-pai is about five or six miles by road from Swatow, and seven or eight miles by the creek (which is very winding) from the river.

17. I am of opinion that it would not be advisable to march up to the village from Swatow without a force of 300 or 400 men, as although a much smaller force would probably succeed in defeating the men opposed to them, and destroying the village, it would not be enough to prevent loss on our part.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD KERR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Acting Consul Alabaster to the Senior Naval Officer, Hong Kong.

Sir,

Swatow, January 22, 1869.

LIEUTENANT KERR will have reported to you the circumstances of his affair at the independent village of Outang-pai, some eight or ten miles from this; and I hereby write, therefore, to express my concurrence in the course taken by him, and to urge the necessity of a force being sent hither without delay to read the semi-piratical villagers the sharp and decisive lesson I have the instructions of Her Majesty's Minister, in anticipation of some such outrage as this, to see taught them.

The interests of commerce at this port have so suffered from the compromise made when a boat's crew of the "Weazel" were seized in 1860, that I trust this opportunity may be taken to thoroughly re-establish the prestige on which our safety here depends; and much as the sufferings of Lieutenant Kerr and his men are to be deplored, they will be a gain in the long run, if severe and prompt punishment overtakes the offenders,—for it was certain that sooner or later a collision must occur between foreigners and the semi-piratical villages in the neighbourhood, and a case in which right was as clearly and entirely on our side could scarcely have occurred until an example had been made. The safety of foreign life and property on the way to Chao-chow-foo would have been a matter dependent on the variable temper of the villagers, and a catastrophe might easily have resulted, which would not have admitted of such easy solution as the present.

There are various other matters pending here which would be more readily settled if there was force on the spot, but which have not so far seemed sufficiently important to justify my applying for the special presence of a large ship on their account alone.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ALABASTER.

No. 3.

Consul Robertson to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 22.)

Sir,

Canton, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information copy of a despatch I addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking with reference to an attack made by some villagers in the neighbourhood of Swatow on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer,"

whereby several of the officers and men were more or less wounded, and the measures taken in communication with the Viceroy of this Province to punish the offenders.

In addition I inclose a minute of the interview between Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel and the Viceroy, together with a copy of a despatch and its inclosures I received from the former acquainting me with the results of the expedition, from which you will see that Commodore Oliver Jones, having proceeded to Swatow with Her Majesty's ships "Rinaldo," "Perseus," and the gun-boat "Bouncer," where he was joined by the gun-boats "Leven" and "Cockchafer," attacked and destroyed three villages and the town of Outang-pai. Submission was then made by the Chiefs, and the operations were concluded.

At an interview with the Viceroy, I communicated the contents of the Admiral's despatch. His Excellency expressed much regret that Commodore Jones had not awaited the arrival of his Commissioner before proceeding to extremities in accordance with the arrangement made with Sir Henry Keppel, and in this I fully concur with him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

P.S.—To complete this series, I beg to add to the above inclosures, copies of the despatch I received from Sir Henry Keppel, informing me of the attack on the boats which I received after his return to Hong Kong, and my reply.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Consul Robertson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Canton, January 27, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that a gun-boat arrived here on the 24th instant with despatches for Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, who was staying with me here, reporting an attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" by the inhabitants of a village called Outang-pai, about six miles up the river from Swatow, who fired upon them and dangerously wounded two, seriously five, and slightly three, of the party. Inclosed are copies of the Report of Lieutenant-Commander Kerr and Mr. Acting Consul Alabaster, which will give your Excellency the full particulars of the affair.

On the receipt of these despatches the Admiral did me the honour to consult with me on the subject, and I went at once to see the Viceroy. The inclosed minute of the interview, which I drew up at the request of the Admiral, will place your Excellency in possession of the arrangements I made for the redress of this outrage, and I trust you will approve of the course adopted.

The opinion I expressed to the Admiral was that advantage should be taken of the opportunity thus afforded of giving these turbulent villages a sharp lesson, and that even a military parade at the city of Chao-chow-foo would have a happy effect upon the gentry and populace of that troublesome place; but you will see the Viceroy was so strongly opposed to the latter proposition that, in deference to his wishes, I withdrew it, and arranged for joint action only in any operations which might ensue.

I am not yet aware of the strength of the naval force that will be detailed for this service, but the Admiral will be present in Her Majesty's ship "Salamis" to control and regulate.

Your, &c.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Lieutenant and Commander Kerr to Commodore Jones, January 21, 1869.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 2.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

Acting Consul Alabaster to the Senior Naval Officer at Hong Kong, January 22, 1869.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 2.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 3.

Minute of an Interview, on the 24th of January, 1869, between Consul Robertson and the Viceroy Juilin.

Sunday, January 24, 1869.

HER Majesty's Consul called upon the Viceroy by desire of Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, and laid before his Excellency the contents of despatches from Lieutenant Kerr, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," and Her Majesty's Consul at Chao-chow-foo, reporting the boats of that vessel having been without provocation fired upon by the villagers of Outang-pai, whereby the gunner, boatswain's mate, and one man were dangerously wounded, and seven others slightly so. The Consul represented the grave nature of this outrage and the necessity of immediate and decisive steps being taken to punish the offenders, in which the Viceroy fully agreed. The Consul proposed the appointment of officers, to be despatched at once to Swatow, with instructions to demand the surrender of the principals concerned in the attack, and to co-operate with the naval force that would be detached from Hong Kong under the immediate supervision of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief in any operations that might result with a view of enforcing the arrest and punishment of these men. He further suggested the advisability of a military demonstration being made at the city of Chao-chow-foo, in order to impress upon the people the necessity of their being of good behaviour. To the first of the Consul's propositions the Viceroy yielded a ready assent, and some time was occupied in the detail of arrangements with reference thereto; but to the second the Viceroy demurred, on the grounds that the people of Chao-chow-foo had not as yet given cause for complaint, and he feared a military demonstration would cause the assembly of large crowds of people from the neighbourhood, who were naturally turbulent and ungovernable, and the result would probably be that which it was most necessary to avoid, viz., a collision with the mob. He stated that he had received the assurances of the gentry and others of their intention to preserve the peace and quiet of the city, and had accepted them, and they would have just cause for complaint against him if he sanctioned anything which appeared like a departure from the trust he had confided to them. Besides, Mr. Consul Alabaster had himself testified to the perfect quietude of the city. If, however, hereafter, any outbreak took place, he would gladly request the co-operation of Her Majesty's forces to suppress it. The Consul replied, he had made the suggestion simply with a view not only of preventing future difficulties as regarded foreigners, but also under the impression, from what he had so frequently heard from the Viceroy of the turbulent and contumacious character of the Chao-chow-foo populace, that a demonstration of the kind would be of essential service to the local authorities. If, however, the Viceroy thought differently, he believed he was only speaking the sentiments of Sir Henry Keppel when he said he would not press the subject further. The Viceroy expressed his satisfaction, and remarked that the 4,000 troops which were engaged in pacification in that part of the province should receive orders to close on Chao-chow-foo, and take in hand the reduction of these disaffected villages; and he trusted ere long there would be no cause for complaint against them. The Consul then took his leave, with the understanding that the Chinese gun-boat should at once be despatched, with competent officers as agreed upon.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON, *Consul.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 3.

Minute of an Interview, at Canton, on the 25th January, 1869, between the Viceroy Juilin and Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Canton, January 25, 1869.

HIS Excellency Juilin, Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, called this afternoon upon his Excellency Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., Commander-in-chief, &c., &c.

At the interview the Viceroy took occasion to express his sense of the obligation he felt under to Sir Henry Keppel for the courtesy and consideration he had received from his Excellency in all matters requiring their mutual intervention, and the support his Excellency had given in the suppression of piracy on the coast. Such proofs of confidence and goodwill inspired the Viceroy with sentiments of profound respect and regard for Sir H. Keppel, and afforded promise of the happiest results hereafter.

The Viceroy then alluded to the late unfortunate event at Swatow, when the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" were fired upon by the villages of Outang-pai, and several of their crews wounded. His Excellency expressed great regret, and added that, with the assistance of Her Majesty's squadron, ample amends should be made, and a lesson given to these turbulent people which would prevent similar outrages. He then mentioned the measures he was prepared to take in co-operation with the Commander-in-chief. He should at once despatch one of his steam gun-boats to Swatow with a civil officer in whom he had confidence, to communicate with the local authorities, and make such inquiries respecting the affair as might be useful, and further to demand the surrender of the ringleaders. Another of the steam gun-boats would proceed to Hong Kong, report to the Commodore, and accompany the squadron about to be detailed for Swatow. He had also that morning sent orders for the 4,000 troops now acting in the province for the suppression of disaffection to move on the city of Chao-chow-foo at once, and proceed to clear the neighbourhood of these turbulent villagers; and he trusted that this, together with the joint action of the officers of both Governments, would have the happiest results.

Sir Henry Keppel in reply expressed his satisfaction at the opportunity his visit to Canton afforded for an interview with the Viceroy. In this unfortunate affair at Swatow, his sole desire was to act with deference to his Excellency's wishes, and in consultation with him, and he was rejoiced to find how entirely their views were in accord. He wished neither to burn nor destroy, nor commit any act of a belligerent nature. Her Majesty's boats had been fired upon, and Her Majesty's seamen grievously wounded; in fact, one or two of them might die—without any adequate cause for so serious an outrage, and he desired to confer with the Viceroy regarding the mode of obtaining the punishment of the offenders, and he was prepared to co-operate for that purpose with the Imperial officers, and render such assistance as might be found necessary. He should himself be present in order to regulate the movements of Her Majesty's squadron, in order that nothing might be done which would appear like independent action on its part. Respecting the suppression of piracy, he, Sir Henry Keppel, had endeavoured to place the matter upon a proper basis with regard to the respective rights of both countries. Some irregularities had existed, the amendment of which had received his immediate and earnest attention. In a matter of that kind where great latitude for action was a necessary consequence of the peculiar service required from officers, deviations from a strict regard for international rights would sometimes occur, but he had endeavoured, and he believed successfully, to rectify such errors.

The Viceroy remarked that officers would occasionally make mistakes; he found it so with his own: but with entire confidence between superiors, such as existed between Sir Henry Keppel and himself, and with a liberal construction placed on acts as well as motives, such occurrences were easy of settlement, and would even strengthen the ties of mutual regard and esteem.

With reference to visiting the city of Chao-chow-foo, Sir Henry Keppel observed that, in all probability, he should do so, on which the Viceroy remarked that he hoped his Excellency would be attended with as small an escort as possible; and, indeed, he should prefer Sir Henry Keppel waiting until the troops he had sent should arrive, as he much feared a concourse of rabble might be the cause of something unpleasant occurring. Sir Henry Keppel observed that he was not at all certain of going to the city, and, under any circumstances, would do so only on the invitation of the authorities. The Viceroy again expressed his appreciation of his Excellency's consideration.

Some conversation followed with respect to an Imperial steam gun-boat being permanently stationed in Hong Kong harbour, for the purpose of being always at hand for joint expeditions. The Viceroy thought it was advisable, but requested a despatch on the subject, as there were various circumstances attending it which required consideration.

On taking leave the Viceroy renewed in the most impressive manner his expressions of esteem and regard for Sir Henry Keppel, and trusted on his next visit to Canton his Excellency would do him the honour of dining with him.

January 26, 1869.

The Viceroy sent his card early this morning with his farewell wishes to Sir Henry Keppel on his leaving for Hong Kong.

(Signed)

D. B. ROBERTSON, *Consul.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 3.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Consul Robertson.

Sir, "Salamis," at Swatow, February 2, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, the copy of a letter from Commodore Jones, reporting the operations conducted against the piratical villages which attacked the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," together with the copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at this port referring to these proceedings, and inclosing a document from the offending villages, acknowledging the justice of the punishment they received, and promising to avoid future cause of offence.

In communicating to his Excellency the Viceroy the particulars contained in these documents, I have the honour to request that you will explain away any ill-feeling that might possibly result from Commodore Jones having commenced operations before the arrival of the Viceroy's Commissioner, who was appointed to give countenance to our action on Chinese territory.

It appears that the Commodore, hearing that the inhabitants of these insurgent villages were strengthening their defences and preparing for resistance, considered that it would economise life on both sides to strike a prompt and decisive blow, and show these turbulent villagers that there was little hope of a successful resistance to the formidable force opposed to them.

His Excellency will be pleased to hear that the action of the force was strictly confined to those villages which so unwarrantably attacked the "Cockchafer's" boats, and that every means was adopted to confine the punishment to the individuals who were there and then firing upon us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 7 in No. 3.

Commodore Jones to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir, "Rinaldo," Swatow, January 30, 1869

IN obedience to your orders of the 26th January, to proceed in this ship to Swatow, and with the "Perseus," "Cockchafer," "Leven," and "Bouncer," under my orders, to bring the villagers of Outang-pai, &c., to punishment for their attack on the boats of the "Cockchafer" on the 20th instant, I have the honour to report that I arrived at this port on the 28th instant about 10 A.M. The "Perseus" and "Bouncer" arrived during the afternoon of the same day. I found lying here the "Cockchafer" and "Leven." I at once communicated with Her Majesty's Consul, and he procured me a sufficient number of boats to land my force.

2. Next morning (29th instant) early I left the ships and landed the marines at Swatow, with orders to march up to the creek and await there the arrival of the rest of the force.

3. About 8 A.M. the boats and lighters having arrived, I proceeded, the marines marching up to protect the boats from fire from under the banks, the rest of the force going by the creek. The small-arm men were landed soon after at a convenient spot.

4. About 10 A.M. we arrived off the village of Tang-tun, and landed two of the field-pieces.

5. Parties of armed men were seen behind the village walls and others on the hills behind, in large numbers, making signals and waving flags.

6. I threw out two companies of marines as skirmishers, placed the field-pieces on the right, formed the remainder of the riflemen as supports, and detailed Commander Charles E. Stevens, with about sixty small-arm men, with orders to pass on the proper right of the village and clear the hills beyond of the armed men there.

7. The advance was then sounded, orders having been given not to fire unless fired upon, nor to injure any unarmed or unresisting persons.

8. As soon as the force was in motion, a fire was opened upon it from the village walls, which was responded to by the field-pieces and skirmishers, the skirmishers advancing rapidly to the walls.

9. The enemy did not wait but evacuated the town, keeping up a running fire as they retreated.

10. Observing one of the gates open I ordered Lieutenant St. Vincent Nepean with his company into the village to drive the enemy out, the remainder of the force skirting round the proper left of the village and driving the enemy before it.

11. I advanced to some hills about half-a-mile to the rear of Tang-tun, and having driven the enemy out of range, halted while detachments were sent in to burn the village.

12. Having effectually destroyed the village, there being little but burnt walls left standing, I withdrew the force to the boats and let the people have their dinner.

13. When the people had dined and rested I resumed operations, marching upon the village of Po-leng; the field pieces having been re-embarked, the boats under Commander Lord Charles Scott going up the creek and keeping abreast of the land force.

14. I sent the blue-jackets under Commander Charles E. Stevens round the proper left of the village of Po-leng, and with the marines under Captain William G. Hale, R.M.L.I., skirted the right, and, as there was no firing upon us from it, that village was left unmolested.

15. The force next proceeded towards Outang-pai, the scene of the commencement of the attack upon the "Cockchafer's" boats.

16. Another village was in front of it; between it and Outang-pai we saw the enemy massed in considerable force, making a great display with banners, firing gingals and advancing upon us.

17. Upon approaching the village a brisk fire was opened upon us from the walls and houses. An attack on it was instantly made, but, as every street was more or less barricaded and every gate and door closed, some time was occupied in forcing our way through and driving the enemy out. Pitfalls and trous-de-loups with broken spears and other sharp-pointed irons were plentifully dug about, in one of which Lieutenant Rodney Lloyd fell and got wounded in the leg.

18. As the principal point of attack still was in front, and it was getting late, I did not wait to fire the village completely, merely burning the house of one of the principal people who was said to be implicated in the attack on the "Cockchafer's" boats.

19. The force was now in front of the south face of Outang-pai, which is a considerable town of from 7,000 to 10,000 inhabitants rather than a village. This front extended not less than two miles (it is said to be four miles), and the local difficulties before it were considerable—a broad and deep creek skirting it, besides many smaller ones. The heavy fire from our rifles, and a flanking fire from the boats, cleared the front of the town of fighting men. After marching about a mile, a part of the wall which appeared less strong than the rest was selected for the place of attack, and skirmishers having been thrown out, a general advance took place.

20. Two large and deep ditches were found to be in front of the walls, which were forded, and the gates, after some delay, forced.

21. Two companies of marines were then ordered to advance in parallel lines through the town towards the creek, two companies of blue-jackets were detailed for burning the town, and the remainder of the force under Commander Charles Stevens was ordered to follow up, in order to protect the fire party and prevent them straggling.

22. But little resistance was offered after the force entered the town, the fighting men having fled through the opposite part.

23. By sunset a great part of the town was destroyed, and considering that sufficient punishment had been inflicted on these people to deter them from attacking our boats again, I withdrew the force to the boats and returned to the ships.

24. About 5 P.M., the Captain of the Chinese gun-boat "An-lan" arrived, stating that he had brought some Chinese officials and that he was ordered to render us any assistance in his power.

25. I have great pleasure in reporting to you the good conduct of the whole of the force under my orders on the occasion of this successful expedition.

26. Commander Charles E. Stevens of the "Perseus" was conspicuous for his gallantry in leading his men, and judgment in directing them, and throughout the day rendered the most effective and zealous good service. I particularly recommend him to your favourable consideration.

27. Acting Commander Hardy McHardy of the "Rodney" proved himself an able leader.

28. Commander Lord Charles T. M. D. Scott of the "Rinaldo" had command of the flotilla, and rendered the most efficient assistance.

29. Captain William G. Hale, R.M.L.I., of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," commanded the marines admirably, maintaining order and steadiness under trying circumstances, and always leading them in every attack. Second Captain Frederick

A. Ogle, R.M.A., and Lieutenants Frederick Baldwin and Adolphus B. Crosbie, R.M.L.I., all did their duty nobly.

30. Among the Lieutenants, who all did well, it is difficult to select those who merit peculiar commendation, but I particularly noticed the zeal of Lieutenant St. Vincent Nepean of the "Rodney."

31. Lieutenant Rodney M. Lloyd of the "Bouncer" behaved with his well-known courage and judgment, being equally ready to take the important but dull duty of bringing up the scaling ladders as to lead an attack. There is no officer in the force to whom I feel more indebted for good service rendered than to him. He was slightly wounded.

32. Lieutenant Orford S. Cameron, of the "Leven," though with a broken arm, led his men, and did good service.

33. Lieutenant Howard Kerr, of the "Cockchafer," also did good service.

34. I am much indebted to Captain E. C. Sim, R.E. (whom Major-General Brunker at my request lent to me) for his valuable advice, which led to much of the success of the expedition.

35. With the officers attached to me personally, I am most satisfied. My Secretary, Mr. Francis A. Carter, by my side all day, was of the greatest use to me. Lieutenant Hugh M. Tyler, of the "Rodney," and Sub-Lieutenant John M. Prickett, of the "Perseus," did duty as aides-de-camp, and as the force was necessarily much separated they ran great risks in conveying my orders; throughout the day they showed great clearness, zeal, and bravery.

36. I may mention that Lieutenant Thornhaugh P. Gurdon, Supernumerary of the "Princess Charlotte," though holding no command in the force, made himself conspicuous by his courage and activity.

37. Lieutenant Herbert F. Gye, of the "Rodney," was unfortunately much burnt by an explosion of gunpowder in his face and hands, whilst burning the village of Tang-tun, and I unfortunately lost his services early in the day.

38. As it was probable that the force might have been detained some days up the creek, I ordered Mr. Thomas P. Pullinger, Acting Paymaster of the "Rinaldo," to make the necessary arrangements for provisioning the men, which he did admirably.

39. All the Sub-Lieutenants, warrant, and subordinate officers behaved well and conspicuously.

40. George Wheeler, chief gunner's mate of the "Princess Charlotte," whom I brought up as my coxswain, was by my side all day, and was conspicuous for his conduct and good shooting. I recommend him to your favourable consideration.

41. Commander Lord Charles Scott reports that Lieutenant John Hext, in command of the pinnacle of the "Perseus," was conspicuous for his zeal, and for getting his gun into action throughout the day.

42. The medical officers, Surgeon William G. Ridings, of the "Rinaldo;" Surgeon Astley Cooper, of the "Perseus;" Assistant-Surgeons Bradley Gregory, of the "Rodney," Henry D. Stanistreet, of the "Leven," and John Craw, of the "Perseus," behaved with their wonted zeal and courage. Fortunately their services were not much required, but every preparation was made by them to meet any contingency.

43. I would particularly call your attention to the ready assistance I received from Mr. Charles Alabaster, Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow, in conducting this expedition. He procured me transport and accompanied the force, being constantly in the very front, and giving me the most necessary advice and information.

Attached is a list of the casualties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 3.

List of Casualties which occurred during the Operations against the Villages of Tang-tun, Outang-pai, &c.

Lieutenant Herbert F. Gye, of "Rodney," severely burnt about hands, arms, face, neck, and ears, by an explosion of gunpowder. (Eyes not injured.)

Lieutenant Rodney M. Lloyd, of "Bouncer," wounded in leg by a poisoned spear.

Lieutenant Philip P. Aitken, of "Rinaldo," contused by blows given with a door-bar.

Michael Queally, ordinary of "Rodney," slight wound in groin from a slug-shot.
 John Stowers, private, R.M.L.I., of "Rodney," head badly cut by a stone.
 Joseph Cochrane, ordinary of "Leven," slight wound in hand from a slug-shot.

Inclosure 9 in No. 3.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Commodore Jones.

Sir,

Swatow, January 31, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translations of three petitions presented me this morning by the elders of the villages concerned in the attack on the "Cockchafer's" boats, fully submitting.

I propose, should you approve, to issue a Proclamation in reply informing them that unless again attacked or insulted we have no desire to attack them further, and shall leave them at peace until forced to the contrary by misconduct on their part.

From all I hear the successful issue of the expedition has had the happiest effect on the country round, the clemency extended to the villages which offered no resistance having been as fully appreciated as the necessary severity used with those from which our force was fired upon, and I have to thank you for the extraordinarily prompt and effective protection you have afforded the port, in which, for the first time since its opening, life and property are at length secure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure 10 in No. 3.

Petition from the Inhabitants of Tang-tun.

(Translation.)

THE inhabitants of Tang-tun unite in addressing the Consul.

On the 8th day of this month, some children, on seeing your great country's war boats passing, were much frightened, and running away foolishly excited our people to attack them, for which the great army has entered our village and punished us. We repent our fault fully, and prostrating ourselves, beg undeserved that mercy may be shown us, and promise that, men and women, we will, one and all, live peaceably and quietly for coming generations under your favour. Trusting that the great Consul will hear our prayers, &c.

[Similar petitions from the villages of Outang-pai and Poleng.]

"Rinaldo," at Swatow, January 31, 1869.

Submitted for the information of the Commander-in-chief.

(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES, *Commodore.*

Inclosure 11 in No. 3.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Consul Robertson.

Sir,

"Rodney," at Hong Kong, January 23, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, the copy of a letter I have received from Lieutenant Howard Kerr, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," reporting that when detached with his boats for exercise, on passing the village of Outang-pai, River Han, the party under his command were assailed with stones and subsequently fired on from the villages and banks by a force estimated at 500 men, which resulted in an officer, petty officer, and eight men of the party being more or less severely wounded.

I have to request that you will be pleased immediately to bring this case to the notice of his Excellency the Viceroy, offering him my friendly co-operation towards promptly bringing this piratical village to justice, and conveying my request that he will be pleased

to dispatch a Chinese gun-boat, with officers commissioned to act in the matter, to accompany the force under my command now in readiness to sail for Swatow, and to co-operate with the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 12 in No. 3.

Consul Robertson to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir, Canton, January 28, 1869.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 23rd instant, inclosing copy of a letter from Lieutenant Howard Kerr, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," reporting the attack made upon the boats of that vessel by the inhabitants of the village Ou-tang-pai, whereby an officer, petty officer, and eight men of the party were more or less severely wounded; and in reply to state I lost no time in carrying out your Excellency's instructions, and the inclosed copies of notes of the interviews had with his Excellency the Viceroy will place you in possession of the arrangements made for a friendly co-operation in the bringing of the offenders in this affair to punishment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

No. 4.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, Foreign Office, March 24, 1869.
I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of the 20th instant, and its inclosures, respecting the collision which took place between the boats of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Cockchafer" and the Chinese villagers on the banks of the Han River, near Swatow, on the 20th of January last.

Further particulars, showing the attack and destruction of the villages engaged in that affair, were yesterday received from Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, whose despatch and its inclosures I am to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in case they should not yet have been received from Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel.

The Lords of the Admiralty will observe that on learning at Hong Kong, on the 23rd of January, that the boats of the "Cockchafer" had been attacked, Sir Henry Keppel very properly requested Her Majesty's Consul at Canton to call the attention of the Viceroy to the matter, and to offer the friendly co-operation of Her Majesty's forces for bringing the offenders to justice; that the Viceroy, on the 24th of January, expressed to the Consul, and on the following day, the 25th, to Sir Henry Keppel himself, his readiness to take measures, in co-operation with Her Majesty's forces, despatching one of his gun-boats to Swatow, with a civil officer, to communicate with the local authorities, and detaching another to accompany the British squadron about to be detailed for Swatow. The Viceroy was assured by Sir Henry Keppel that those forces would act in concert with the Viceroy's, and render such assistance as might be required, and that Sir H. Keppel would himself be present to regulate the movements of Her Majesty's squadron, in order that nothing might be done which would have the appearance of independent action on their part. It seems, however, from Commodore Jones' despatch of the 30th of January, that on the 26th of January, the day following Sir Henry Keppel's interview with the Viceroy, he was ordered by the Admiral to proceed with the squadron to Swatow to punish the villagers, and that, on his arrival there, he commenced a series of operations which ended in the destruction of the villages, attended, doubtless, with serious loss of Chinese life; but, beyond noticing the arrival, after the action was over, of a Chinese gun-boat, with officials on board, with offers of assistance, no allusion is made by the Commodore to co-operation with the Chinese forces, nor any reason given, except apprehension lest the villagers should be enabled by delay to strengthen their defences, why that co-operation was not waited for, nor why the attack was made independently of it.

The character of the whole transaction was thus changed ; instead of being a measure of redress spontaneously afforded by the Chinese authorities, it became one in which the action of the British force was independent of them, and the Lords of the Admiralty will judge whether it would not be desirable to obtain from Sir H. Keppel some explanation of this departure from the plan of operations agreed upon with the Viceroy.

But, at all events, Lord Clarendon directs me to submit, for the consideration of the Lords of the Admiralty, whether it would not be expedient to restrict naval officers from exposing Her Majesty's flag to insult by passing up, without any adequate cause, in armed boats, through narrow waters flowing through notoriously hostile populations ; and whether they should not be required, in the event of the Chinese authorities expressing their determination to punish, in co-operation with Her Majesty's naval forces, parties who may have insulted Her Majesty's flag, to suspend any independent action, and only so far to interfere by force as their intervention may be required to support the action of the Imperial forces who may be engaged in redressing and punishing the insult which may have given cause for complaint.

The inclosed papers being forwarded in original, I am to request that they may be returned to this office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 5.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Robertson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 25, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th of February, inclosing Reports of events arising out of an attack made by the Chinese inhabitants of villages in the neighbourhood of Swatow on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Cockchafer;" and I have to acquaint you that I entirely approve of the judicious tone of your communication with the Viceroy of Canton in regard to that matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 6.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 25, 1869.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter which I caused to be addressed to the Admiralty* on receiving from Mr. Consul Robertson an account of the attack on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Cockchafer," near Swatow, and of the subsequent proceedings of the naval squadron under the command of Commodore Oliver Jones.

I also inclose a copy of a despatch to Consul Robertson,† informing him that Her Majesty's Government approve his communications with the Viceroy of the Two Kwang respecting these occurrences.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 4.

† No. 5.

No. 7.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Swatow, January 24, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister, reporting an outrage committed by neighbouring villagers on the boats belonging to Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," stationed at this port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Swatow, January 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report one of those outrages for which this port is distinguished.

Yesterday, Lieutenant Kerr, commanding the gun-boat stationed here, took a party of his men, numbering twenty-three, all told, for exercise up the creek at the back of Swatow.

When they had proceeded some eight miles, and were passing the village of Puting, they were yelled at and stoned by the villagers on the banks.

Lieutenant Kerr very properly thought it desirable that the insult, one of not unfrequent occurrence in this neighbourhood, should not pass unnoticed, and immediately landed with the intention of demanding redress from the headmen.

Appealing to a respectable man who was looking on, and who, it appears, was one of the headmen of village, he requested him to point out the residence of the Chiefs.

The man refused, and Lieutenant Kerr told him therefore that he must accompany him back to Swatow, and see the mandarins. This was resisted; and the man calling to the village braves, fire was at once commenced on Lieutenant Kerr and his party.

The fire was of course returned; and having dispersed the attacking party, Lieutenant Kerr withdrew his men to the boats.

Scarcely had they got a mile, however, on their way back, when they were attacked by an overwhelming party of villagers, who poured in a destructive fire on the boats, wounding Lieutenant Kerr and ten of his men—two of them very severely.

With much difficulty Lieutenant Kerr got away, the boats being much damaged by the fire. And I learn some nine or ten of the villagers were killed, and twenty or so wounded.

Three villages, those of Puting, Outang-pai, and Sang-tung, the second one of the most powerful of the eighteen villages whose holy alliance in old days against foreigners your Excellency has heard of, took part in the outrage.

Were all my countrymen gifted with supernatural prudence, and capable of submitting patiently to every kind of insult and outrage, I should have deplored the occurrence; but it was impossible that the eighteen villages should continue to hold the mistaken impression in which our long-suffering patience has encouraged them, that foreigners were afraid of them, without an explosion occurring sooner or later; and I am therefore glad that the necessity of action should have occurred in a case in which foreigners and Chinese are agreed that the villagers are at fault, as the opportunity properly used will enable me to secure the safety of foreigners in the part of the country necessarily continually traversed by them, and in which they have hitherto been invariably exposed to insult, and in which their presence has been always attended with risk.

Summary vengeance might possibly have been taken by moving the gun-boat up the creek, and bombarding the village: but this would have been attended with no results as regarded the villages further from the bank, who would still have thought themselves unassailable; and I have therefore written to the Admiral for a force sufficient to obtain ample satisfaction, and convince the villagers generally of the policy of respecting foreigners, without, I trust, the further effusion of blood or sacrifice of life.

If this force arrives, I hope to be enabled to report to your Excellency the final removal of all obstacles to quiet residence on the part of foreigners. The other districts have all, more or less, recognized the danger of interfering with us; and the eighteen villages, our nearest neighbours, are the only remaining antagonists, as they have always been the most bitter ones, we have to overcome.

Mr. Brennan was returning from Chao-chow-foo, where he had been passing some time in perfect security, the day of the occurrence, and I was greatly apprehensive for his safety ; but my messengers fortunately reached him before his arrival at the village, and he returned to the city, whence he has since arrived by the other route.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

No. 8.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Swatow, January 31, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, reporting the successful issue of the expedition sent up to obtain satisfaction from the villages concerned in the attack on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer."

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Swatow, January 30, 1869.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 22nd January, I have the honour to report that on the 28th instant Commodore Jones arrived with some 400 or 500 men to punish the villagers for their attack on the "Cockchafer's" boats.

I had written to both Taoutae and District Magistrate, but neither came ; I understand being desirous of saving appearances in case, as was generally anticipated, we should get the worst of it.

The District Magistrate went so far as to write in reply to a letter I had written him before the force arrived, asking him to have the head man who was present at the outrage arrested, as if he sympathised with the villagers—an admirable manner of cloaking his inability to comply with my request. I sent the letter, copy of which I inclose, to the Commodore at once, but he did not think it necessary to deviate from the course determined on at Canton between the Admiral and the Governor-General, and on Friday morning, the 29th instant, the force left for the scene of action, the Commodore himself in command, I accompanying him at his request, in case my presence might prove useful.

No opposition was offered at the intervening villages, who seemed to have made up their minds to see the issue of the first attack before deciding what course to take ; but it was confidently expected that none of our force would return alive,—the villages, since their successful resistance of Koxinga, the conqueror of Formosa, having had the reputation of being invincible.

But on arrival at the first of the offending villages, Tang-tun, the villagers opened fire on our force before communication was possible, and the village had, therefore, to be assaulted and burnt, the braves retreating precipitately.

I was in hopes that this lesson would have been sufficient, and accordingly induced the Commodore to spare the next village at which no opposition was offered, and to pass over a little firing at the village of Upper Outang-pai ; but on nearing the main village we were met by the braves in force, with their banners and gingalls, marching to attack us. A couple of shells and a volley scattered them however, and the village, or more properly speaking the town, was rapidly assaulted and taken, and, being the chief offender, set fire to.

The force then returned, and I have this morning received a deputation from the villages acknowledging the righteousness of their punishment, and begging for mercy.

I trust, therefore, that there will be no further trouble, and though I cannot but regret the destruction of property and loss of life the villagers have brought on themselves, I must rejoice that the affair has been unattended with loss of life or serious injury to limb on our side, and the severity of the lesson will, I trust, have the effect of preventing the necessity of such expeditions for the future.

Until this moment life or property has never been really safe at Swatow, but I think I can now report them so.

The Taoutae has since our return written twice to say he is coming, and requesting that everything may await his arrival; but he has not yet arrived, and I shall, if he does not do so soon, issue a Proclamation to the villagers to inform them that they will not be again molested unless they again offend, as they appear to be in great apprehension of an attack on our part.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

No. 9.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Swatow, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, reporting the steps I have taken since the attack on the villages concerned in the outrage on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Cockchafer."

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Swatow, February 5, 1869.

IN continuation of my previous despatch I have the honour to report that affairs are at length approaching a settlement.

On Wednesday the Commodore and myself went up to the villages to ascertain positively whether there was still any disposition on the part of the villagers to try their strength with foreigners.

Until an unarmed party had landed and entered the village there could be no certainty as to the treatment passers-by would experience, and we went up, therefore, without escort,—Commodore Jones, myself, Lieutenant Keppel, R.N., Captain Sim, R.E., and one blue-jacket, landing alone.

Two of the elders came down to meet us, and we went up to a temple in the town without the slightest attempt at molestation—the people keeping to their houses, saying not a word, and scarcely venturing to look at us.

At the temple we were met by the assembled Elders, the Taoutae, and the District Magistrate.

The Taoutae was very anxious that I should appear to sympathise with the people, which I, of course, refused to do; and having declined to take any notice of a deputation of wailing women, the Elders were drawn up and I addressed them.

I told them that there was nothing we shrunk from more than war and bloodshed, but that they had themselves alone to blame for what had occurred; that had they even submitted when our force was present, not a soul would have lost his life, and that if they refrained from attacking foreigners they would not in the slightest degree be molested; but I warned them that, if so ill-advised as to insult or injure foreigners again, still heavier punishment would overtake them. I then distributed the Proclamations I had taken with me, and we returned.

Far less damage seems to have been done than I thought, the official report of 290 houses burnt being exaggerated; some 30 or 40, or some 150 rooms nearly, having been destroyed by the fire, and I am glad to find that scarcely any women suffered, although, but for the Commodore's humanity in stopping his men firing, while the villagers were firing from behind the women, many must have been sacrificed.

On our return the Commodore at once left for the "Rinaldo," leaving the gun-boat "Cockchafer" and "Janus" for our protection, to be retained as long as I think desirable.

The next day I had another interview with the mandarin, the Taoutae still holding me responsible for the, to his mind, precipitate manner in which satisfaction had been

obtained,—a point on which I did not feel called upon to argue, although, in fact, the expedition has throughout been entirely beyond my control; but he admitted that the punishment had been well deserved, and that the villagers had brought it on themselves: he also showed himself more reasonable in discussing what still remained to be done, and although still anxious to make capital out of the affair and save himself by attempting to show that we had been unreasonable in our action, he evidently showed he felt the weak nature of his position. In the evening he sent me a long letter inferring that the expedition was contrary to Treaty provisions, and asking me what was to be done, which I have not yet had time to properly answer; and this morning he sent me a cool proposition to agree to, that in future foreigners should always give three days' notice of short walks in the country, and five days' if their excursions were to extend beyond thirteen miles.

I returned this promptly, and sent, in reply, my proposal for the final settlement of the affairs as follows:—

That to prevent the possibility of the recurrence of an important step requiring to be taken, and there being no Chinese authority on the spot to consult, a Sub-Prefect should be permanently stationed at Swatow;

That any foreigner going for a walk should be able to obtain a runner from the Local Police Magistrate on application;

That the Taoutae himself should be bound to come to Swatow within seven days at any time his presence might be required in writing;

That the elders of the surrounding villages should be bound to protect foreigners wandering in their neighbourhood, and warned that they would be held responsible for any insult or injury offered by the villagers; and, for my part, I engaged to prohibit foreigners shooting in the immediate neighbourhood of the villages.

To this he has sent me a verbal message that he agrees, and the document is to be finally discussed and sealed to-morrow. I am glad that everything has eventuated so desirably, and that he has had the sense to withdraw from his untenable position of saving himself both from attack from the people and reproof from his superiors by making out foreigners to have been from the first unreasonable.

And the Treaty, thus proposed, carried out, I trust the sharp and decisive lesson taught by Commodore Jones will be initiative of a new era in the position of foreigners at Swatow and Chao-chow-foo.

I might possibly, by bullying and blustering, have obtained more, but I have preferred, with force in my hands, to ask only what all would allow to be, without possibility of question, evidently just and reasonable.

In conclusion I inclose copy of a letter I have just received from Admiral Keppel relative to my share in the expedition.

Your, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

"Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to Acting Consul Alabaster.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Swatow, February 2, 1869.

COMMODORE JONES, in reporting the recent operations conducted against piratical towns in the River Han, bears the following testimony to your valuable co-operation and assistance. I have the honour to request that you will accept my cordial thanks for your useful services on the occasion:—

"I would particularly call your attention to the very valuable assistance I received from Mr. Chaloner Alabaster, Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow, in conducting this expedition. He procured me transport and accompanied the force, being constantly in the very front, giving me the most necessary advice and information."

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Mr. Matheson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

The Holmwood, Dorking, March 31, 1869.

AS it is probable that the Swatow affair in China will lead to some inquiry at home, it may be of service to your Lordship to be put in possession of the accompanying extracts from the letters of missionaries stationed there.

These men are men of peace, and earnestly desire the welfare of the Chinese; and although they offer no opinion on the political questions involved, yet their remarks are wholly opposed to that morbid philanthropy which will in all probability be excited in some quarters by these accounts from China.

Having addressed your Lordship separately in regard to the affair in Formosa, I have, &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOND. MATHESON,
*One of the Committee on Foreign Missions of the
English Presbyterian Church.*

Inclosure in No. 10.

Extracts from Letters of Missionaries at Swatow.

THE Rev. H. L. Mackenzie writes on the 6th of February, 1869:—

“You will all, I doubt not, rejoice with us that this Swatow affair has not arisen in connection with missionaries, and unite with us in praying that it may be overruled for the progress of the gospel of peace. We, as missionaries of the native church, are certainly more immediately and extensively interested in and affected by such matters than either Consuls or merchants; and living as we do among the people, and going out and in among them, we cannot but be concerned as to the results of so grave an affair.

“The district in which the villages are where this matter has occurred, is occupied by people who have persistently and wickedly cherished a hostile spirit towards foreigners. And now, without pronouncing any opinion on the conduct of officials, I cannot but think that the severe punishment has been permitted to fall upon these villages because of their wickedness, and for their ultimate good. O-Teng-pue and the others are, and have been, notorious for their lawless and cruel feuds among themselves, feuds characterized by bloodthirsty hate, as well as for their implacability towards foreigners, and at length a severe and marked retribution has overtaken them. I think I see in this the hand of God.”

The Rev. James Masson writes on the 2nd of February, 1869:—

“... The Chinese laughed at the small force of foreigners when they saw it all fairly off (on their way up the river), thinking that they would be cut to pieces by the superior numbers of the villagers; and if numbers could have done this, it would certainly have been done: for this Teng-hai district, it is said, could muster 60,000 fighting men, O-Teng pue itself boasting of 10,000 warriors, and this district has the reputation of being very belligerent and bloodthirsty. O-Teng-pue, moreover, in anticipation of trouble, had made peace with the villages with which it was at feud, in hope of their making common cause against foreigners, of whom the whole district cherishes a strong hatred; but of the whole eighteen, only three or four prepared for giving them fight.

* * * * *

“A Chinaman in the service of the Consul told us that the Consul had sent him to several O-Teng-pue men to urge them to settle the matter before extremities were resorted to, but they all treated such an arrangement with scorn, telling him that they would cut the heads off the foreign children, and manure their fields with their bodies. The English seem to have spared life as much as they could on the day of hostilities, firing only on the Chinese when they were resisted and fired upon.”

Dr. Gould, medical missionary, writes on the 6th of February, 1869:—

“Had the Chinese not compelled the force sent to punish them to fire by their

resistance, there is no reason to believe that there would have been any loss of life. The Chinese themselves of these villages seemed surprised that the British acted so leniently, considering how much was in their power, and contrasting their conduct with what the Chinese themselves would have done in like circumstances. The region has been the most notoriously hostile to foreigners all along, of all Tiechew, and it was a district where few of us cared to go; the people uniformly disliking us or our message, and by no means slow to show their feelings by acts of an unmistakable kind.

* * * * *

“Without passing any opinion on the merits of the case, as between the Chinese and the British, and while exceedingly glad and thankful that it has not occurred in connection with missionaries or mission work in any sense, I am very hopeful that God, ‘the judge of the heathen,’ will overrule this for the opening up of the district to the messengers of his gospel, the glad tidings of peace. These villages are constantly at feud with each other, and commit unheard-of cruelties on their neighbours when they are fighting, and on any who fall into their hands. In some cases they chop up the bodies of the slain, even taking out the heart and eating it. It is some satisfaction to us that the trouble has broken out in this rather than in any other part of the district, while, at the same time, we feel sorry from our hearts for the poor people, who have, to some extent at least, brought this trouble on their own heads.”

No. 11.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Alabaster.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1869.

I RECEIVED your three despatches of the 24th and 31st of January and 6th of February, inclosing copies of despatches to Sir Rutherford Alcock respecting the events in the neighbourhood of Swatow, consequent on the attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's ship “Cockchafer” by some Chinese villagers.

The unfavourable impression which, from the accounts received from Her Majesty's Consul at Canton of the transactions referred to, was entertained by Her Majesty's Government, is entirely confirmed by your reports, and I regret to have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government disapprove of your conduct.

Knowing the character of the neighbouring population, you should not have allowed the Commander of the “Cockchafer” without remonstrance to court the collision which the commonest foresight could have anticipated. It is one of the essential duties of Her Majesty's Consular Officers to discountenance and discourage any measures on the part whether of private individuals or of Her Majesty's naval forces calculated to lead to a breach of the peace. Her Majesty's Government look to Consular Officers for prudence and discretion, and cannot too strongly disapprove their undertaking to decide for themselves whether any proceedings of the local authorities or turbulent populations are such as should draw down on them summary vengeance, and be resented by direct acts of war.

In the present case, you should not have contented yourself with referring to local authorities of subordinate rank, when the Governor of the Province was within easy access, and, as experience has shown, fully prepared to grant redress by the punishment of the assailants. A Consul may very properly in cases of difficulty seek protection from British naval officers, but there is a wide difference between doing so and encouraging acts of violence after the pressure for protection is over.

If a naval officer thinks it his duty to have recourse to such measures he must be allowed to do so on his own responsibility, but a Consul should not, unless in great extremity, make himself party to such measures. His duty is to moderate, not to sanction violence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 12.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 2, 1869.*
 MR. ALABASTER has transmitted to me copies of his despatches to you of the 22nd and 30th of January and 3rd of February, respecting the events in the neighbourhood of Swatow consequent upon the attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Cockchafer" by some Chinese villagers; and I now inclose for your information a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to him, disapproving of his conduct.*

I have to instruct you to communicate to Her Majesty's Consuls the purport of this despatch for their guidance in similar cases.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 13.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Matheson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.*
 I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, inclosing extracts from letters of certain missionaries stationed at Swatow; and, in reply, I am to state to you that Her Majesty's Government cannot concur in the expressions of satisfaction contained in those extracts respecting the events which have recently occurred in the neighbourhood of Swatow.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) A. OTWAY.

No. 14.

Mr. Otway to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.*
 WITH reference to Mr. Hammond's letter of the 24th ultimo, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of despatches to Sir R. Alcock and Acting Consul Alabaster,† respecting the attack on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Cockchafer," and the subsequent proceedings of the British squadron near Swatow.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) A. OTWAY.

No. 15.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 7.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April 6, 1869.*
 I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 1st February, together with a copy of the order he had addressed to Commodore Jones, the Senior Naval Officer at Hong Kong, relative to the punishment of some villages, the inhabitants of which had committed an unprovoked attack on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" in the River Han.

A copy of the letter which was addressed to Sir Henry Keppel on the 26th ultimo on this subject, and which was forwarded by last mail, is also transmitted herewith.

My Lordships would be glad to be informed whether Lord Clarendon sees any reason to alter the opinion he had formed of these transactions as communicated to their Lordships by Foreign Office letter of the 24th ultimo, and on which the communication made to Sir H. Keppel was founded.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

P. S.—The inclosures to your letter of the 24th ultimo are returned herewith as requested.

* No. 11.

† Nos. 11 and 12.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Salamis," at Swatow, February 1, 1869.

IN continuation of my letter of the 23rd of January, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on reaching Canton I represented to his Excellency the Viceroy, through Her Majesty's Consul, the grave outrage committed without provocation on the boats of the "Cockchafer," and expressed my intention to dispatch a force to punish these piratical villages, acting in co-operation with such force or officers as the Viceroy might think fit to dispatch.

2. The Viceroy yielded a ready assent to the proposition, and the following day called upon me, expressing his great regret at what had taken place, and adding, that with the assistance of Her Majesty's squadron, ample amends should be made, and a lesson be given to these turbulent people which would prevent similar outrages. He then mentioned his intention of dispatching one of his steam gun-boats to Swatow with a civil officer in whom he had confidence, to act as Commissioner.

3. Having addressed the order, of which a copy is annexed, to Commodore Oliver J. Jones, that officer immediately left for Swatow in the "Rinaldo," arriving on the 28th of January; he started the following morning for the offending villages.

4. At this time the Chinese gun-boat with the Commissioner had not arrived, but the co-operation of a Chinese gun-boat on the spot was offered; the Commodore would doubtless have waited for the Commissioner's arrival were it not that rumours were hourly reaching Swatow that the inhabitants of the villages were strengthening their defences, and massing men: a prompt attack, depriving the enemy of the opportunity to protract their resistance, tended to economize life on both sides. The Commissioners reached Swatow a few hours after my arrival on the afternoon of the 31st instant.

5. Commodore Jones' letter will fully acquaint their Lordships with his proceedings. The good results likely to follow the punishment of these piratical villages is evidenced in the annexed letter from Her Majesty's Consul, giving cover to petitions from the villagers, expressing their contrition, and promising to preserve order for the future.

6. I have much pleasure in directing their Lordships' attention to the able and gallant service of the Commodore on this occasion, and to his gratifying account of the exemplary conduct of the officers and men employed under him, which reflects very creditably on the discipline of the ships from which they were detailed, and will, I trust, meet with some mark of their Lordships' approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Orders addressed to Commodore Jones.

By the Hon. Sir H. Keppel, &c., &c., &c.

YOU are aware that on the main route to the Treaty port of Chao-chow-foo the piratical villagers residing on the banks of the River Han have repeatedly interfered with British trade and interests, levying a black-mail on produce the property of British merchants. British subjects have been held to captivity in these villages; they are not merely at war with themselves, but with society generally.

Where outrages have been committed, the native authorities have professed their inability to exact redress without the assistance of Her Majesty's ships, and we have thus, on two recent occasions, acted successfully in co-operation with the Chinese Imperial troops.

You are now furnished with Lieutenant Kerr's Report on the unprovoked attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," resulting in two officers and eight men being wounded on our side.

Her Majesty's Minister has already informed me that we are at full liberty to repel any such attack, or to put down any opposition made to our progress up the river to the Treaty port of Chao-chow-foo.

On receiving an account of the outrage on the "Cockchafer's" boats, I at once placed myself in communication with the Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, through Her Majesty's Consul, and offered my co-operation with the Imperial forces in order that these piratical villagers may be brought to a sense of their position. His Excellency has

accordingly appropriated a gun-boat to convey the proper officer to the scene of action to co-operate with any force I may dispatch.

Having every confidence in your skill and judgment, you are to take the "Perseus," "Rinaldo," "Severn," and "Bouncer," under your command, dispatching them as soon as they are ready to Swatow, where they will meet the "Cockchafer" and "Banterer."

You are also to detach such a force from the "Rodney" as will make up your landing party to at least 400 men, including field-piece parties.

You will hoist your broad pendant in the "Rinaldo," directing the Commander of that vessel to bear you as lent for particular service, and proceeding when ready to Swatow.

On arrival you are to place yourself in communication with Her Majesty's Consul.

Your duty will be to bring the villagers of Outang-pai, &c., to punishment with as little delay as possible, co-operating with the Chinese officials to this end, and acting in accord with the Commissioner dispatched by his Excellency the Viceroy, and to the best of your judgment.

You will keep your communication open with Swatow, and intimate through the Chinese officials that we are only at war with such of the piratical villages as are at war with us.

Amongst the latter must be considered the inhabitants of the villages who are known to have participated in the attack on the "Cockchafer's" boats.

Dated on board the "Rodney," at Hong Kong, the 26th day of January, 1869.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

To Oliver John Jones, Esq.,

Commodore of the Second Class, and

Captain of Her Majesty's ship "Princess Charlotte."

By command of the Commander-in-chief,

(Signed) W. B. RISK, *Secretary*.

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Admiralty, March 26, 1869.

I AM directed by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the copy of a letter from the Foreign Office covering a despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Consul Robertson, on the subject of the destruction of the villages concerned in the attack on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Cockchafer" in January last.

My Lords, with the information now before them, entirely concur in the views taken by the Earl of Clarendon of these transactions, and I am to request that you will furnish their Lordships with precise information explanatory of the reasons which led you, on the 26th of January, to instruct Commodore Jones to "bring these villages to punishment," after the communications which had passed between yourself, Mr. Robertson, and the Viceroy of Canton on the previous day.

I am directed to add that their Lordships regret that the mail which brought such detailed information of these occurrences to the Foreign Office did not contain corresponding despatches from you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. H. BRIGGS, *pro Sec.*

No. 16.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 8.)

Sir,

Admiralty, April 7, 1869.

WITH reference to my letter of the 6th instant, on the subject of the punishment inflicted on some Chinese villages in the neighbourhood of Swatow for outrages committed on boats of the "Cockchafer," I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, copy of a letter from Commodore Jones, dated 6th February, inclosing a plan showing the movements of the forces employed, and reporting his having paid a friendly visit to the villages on the Chao-chow-foo Creek, subsequently to the operations of the 29th January.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Commodore Jones to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to send you, for their Lordships' information, a copy of a letter addressed to the Commander-in-chief, in continuation of my despatches to him (which doubtless have been forwarded to their Lordships) relative to the operations at the villages near Swatow; also a plan showing the movements of the forces employed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Commodore Jones to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that on the 1st instant the Taoutae of Chao-chow-foo, attended by a large following, waited upon Her Majesty's Consul and me at the Consulate at Swatow. Next day Her Majesty's Consul and I returned his call at his yamên in Swatow. The Consul told him that he intended proceeding up the river to Outang-pai, and distributing to the elders of the villages who had fired upon the "Cockchafer's" boats Proclamations to the effect that as they had acknowledged their fault and implored our clemency, no further offensive steps would be taken; that we wished for peace and not war, and that unless we were again attacked they need fear no aggression from us; but if they again attacked our boats or people, a more fearful retribution than the one they had lately suffered would fall upon them.

The Taoutae and his advisers said that the people were in a very excited state, and that if we went up they might from fear or panic fire upon us, and begged we would delay going up until they had calmed down, and suggested three or four months before any one went there or to Chao-chow-foo. We (for I intended to accompany the Consul) replied, that if he had any fears he might send officers to notify we were coming in peace, and that we would defer our going to Outang-pai till the next day. After considerable hesitation, seeing that we meant to carry out our intentions, he agreed to send a mandarin with us, and to go out there himself to receive us.

Next day, the 3rd instant, the Consul and I, accompanied by Lieutenants L. C. Keppel and H. M. Tyler, and Captain C. E. Sim, R.E., proceeded up the river, taking only my galley and the Consulate boat, towed by the "Sylvia's" steam-cutter, and arrived at Outang-pai at 1 P.M. The Consul sent for some of the elders of the town, and with them we entered it and soon met the Taoutae and suite, and with him proceeded to a temple in the heart of the town, which had been prepared for the interview.

Though the people did not present a threatening appearance, still as they had so lately suffered so much at our hands they did not look very amiable, and I confess that, being entirely in their power, I thought our position much less pleasant than when under their fire a few days before.

At the gate of the temple we were met by a crowd of suppliants; no doubt people who had lost friends or property.

After some conversation with the Taoutac, the Consul sent for the elders of the town, and after expatiating upon the enmity of their attack upon the "Cockchafer's" boats, and pointing out to them how they had brought punishment upon themselves by that act and by firing upon my force, assured them that, unless they provoked further punishment by future aggression, they were safe from any further attack and annoyance at our hands, and gave his proclamations to one of them for distribution.

The aspect of the elders was marked by submission and an acquiescence in the justice of our dealings.

We then broke up the interview and returned to our boats, without the slightest insult or annoyance; and I think it may be reasonably inferred that the lesson which has been taught these people will not be speedily effaced, and that the creek by Outang-pai will be a safe high road for the commerce of the interior of the country for many a long day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

P.S.—My services being no longer required at Swatow, I left that port in Her Majesty's ship "Rinaldo" on the afternoon of the 3rd instant, and arrived here at 1 P.M. next day, and shifted my broad pendant to the "Princess Charlotte."

O. J. J.

No. 17.

Mr. Murray to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1869.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of the 6th instant and its inclosures respecting the attack on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Cockchafer," and the subsequent proceedings of the British squadron under the command of Commodore Jones in the neighbourhood of Swatow; and I am to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that his Lordship sees no reason to alter the opinion on these transactions expressed in Mr. Hammond's letter of the 24th ultimo, and that he concurs in the instructions which their Lordships have addressed to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, and of which a copy is inclosed in your letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 18.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord,

Swatow, February 8, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose duplicate copy of a despatch sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, reporting an attack on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," as I have reason to suppose that the copy forwarded to your Lordship at the time of the occurrence has miscarried.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock, January 22, 1869.

[See Inclosure in No. 7.]

No. 19.

Acting Consul Alabaster to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord,

Swatow, February 10, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, informing him of the final settlement of the late difficulties at this port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Swatow, February 8, 1869.

I AM happy to report everything settled, and I trust your Excellency will think satisfactorily.

When the Canton Commissioners had left the Taoutac breathed more freely, and we soon drew up and put into execution a Treaty on the basis sketched in my last, he freely admitting that my demands were most reasonable, and that he had only made objections for the sake of effect.

As soon as the Treaty, copy of which I inclose, was signed and sealed, he drew out a Proclamation, and set to work getting the signatures of the various village elders to the bonds I required from them promising to protect foreigners who may happen to visit their villages, the expedition having enabled him to get a power and influence in the neighbourhood never possessed by the officers of the present Dynasty before; and the most important villages having signed, I allowed him to return to Chao-chow-foo, where his presence was urgently required.

During the negotiations he tried hard to restrict our access to the country, but was obliged to own that he could not support his propositions by sound arguments, and gave in to my demand on the point that an escort should always be obtainable, if desired, with a suite.

He also tried to obtain influence over the villagers by inducing me to promise an indemnity to those who had suffered unavoidably in the punishment deserved by their fellows, but I at once warned him that any expression of sympathy with the villagers would be considered by me as an adoption on the part of the authorities of the insult offered our flag and injury done our men, and he then proposed that he should at the same time relieve those who seemed unfortunate, and follow up the guilty who had escaped.

To this I had no objection, for in punishing a village, as in punishing a nation, individual injury and injustice must be done, and I was glad that the punishment which we had roughly administered should be fairly adjusted so that the guilty alone should be the sufferers, and I rejoiced also at the opportunity doing this would give him of establishing his power securely, as it must be to our advantage that the responsible Government should really govern the country, and that we should be spared the awkward dilemma of having either to ask redress through those who, however willing, could not grant it, or of seeking it direct ourselves.

In conclusion, I trust your Excellency will support the representation the Taoutae is making, that the Prefect at present stationed at Hwang-kang may be removed here, as it is absolutely necessary that there should be an officer always on the spot of standing and authority sufficient to act in cases of emergency. The Customs deputy, whom the Taoutae has appointed temporarily to represent him, is admirably fitted for the post, but he is not an executive mandarin, and his usefulness must be greatly impaired by the necessity he will be under of acting through others.

Your, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

P.S.—A shooting-party just returned reports having experienced perfect civility even while passing the scene of a clan fight, and I purpose taking my gig to the Fu city in a few days.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Agreement between Acting Consul Alabaster and Taoutae Chang.

CHANG, Taoutae of the Hëen, Chia and Chao District, &c., and Mr. Consul Alabaster, make an agreement :

That the above named Taoutae, not being able to reside permanently at Swatow, will station an official there, so that when any matter affecting both nations arises it may be settled as circumstances demand ;

That, in the event of any important matter occurring, the Taoutae will come to Swatow within seven days of receipt of a letter requesting his presence there ;

That henceforth, when a foreigner wishes to make an excursion, he will, on application at the Police Magistrate's office, be supplied with a runner to accompany and protect him ;

That, henceforth, Englishmen will be forbidden to shoot in the immediate vicinity of villages ;

That a Proclamation will be issued requiring the village elders to prevent the villagers from insulting, injuring, or throwing stones at foreigners, and warning them that, in future, they will be held responsible for any outrage committed ;

That the villagers will be required to bind themselves to respect the above-mentioned Proclamation, and to afford assistance to and protect any foreigner who may find himself amongst them ;

That the Taoutae will petition the high authorities to represent at Peking the necessity of appointing the Maritime Prefect or some other official to reside permanently at Swatow, so that public business may be more easily carried on.

No. 20.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord,

Swatow, February 18, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, in which I report to him my return from a successful trip to Chao-chow-foo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Swatow, February 17, 1869.

I HAVE to report to your Excellency the result of an extremely pleasant trip I have just made to Chao-chow-foo. Mr. Richardson, having occasion to visit his hong in that city, I determined to go up also, in order that if anything occurred I might be on the spot to witness and possibly settle the difficulty.

We went up by the Ket-yang route and were treated with great civility by the villagers at Tao-kao where our boat stopped, the elder having always been favourable to foreigners.

From here we walked to the city unattended by any escort, and although we passed through a village of very evil reputation, heretofore carefully avoided, met no insult or attempt at molestation. On arrival at the city I saw the Taoutae and transacted various business matters in the most friendly spirit, he showing himself even more ready to meet me in reasonable discussion than I have found him on previous occasions.

Next morning I walked through the town absolutely unattended with far greater comfort than a Chinaman could walk down Regent-street, and got into my gig, which as it was the first that has ever visited the city I thought might possibly cause a commotion, without collecting more than twenty or thirty peaceable idlers to gaze at me at the bridge, a visit to which a recent writer in the "Consular Gazette" declared would convince any foreigner, if he returned alive, of the impossibility of the peaceful opening of Chao-chow-foo.

With my Consular flag flying we pulled down to Swatow pass, the villages recently chastised, causing some manifestations of curiosity, but none of ill-feeling. At one place we were hailed and invited to have some sugar cane, and at Boekoe, a large village where

we stopped to give the crew (Chinese) some refreshment, an elder came off to the boat and the people who crowded round us showed every desire to cultivate pleasant relations with the foreigner. At the villages which fired on the "Cockchafer's" boats not a word was said to us as we went slowly by.

The battle is therefore won, and your Excellency's instructions are carried out. Unarmed and unescorted the round to the city has been accomplished; the Consular flag has waved without insult at the city and in the inner waters; the city is shown to be open and its approaches safe and practicable to foreigners. Until now I could never feel perfectly easy that, when some gig would have to go up that, like the "Cockchafer's" boats, the novelty might not be met with injury and insult, but it is now apparent that the officials and people have accepted the position that they are convinced that we can and will have our way, and, as has so often happened before, their opposition has suddenly and entirely ceased.

My trip a year ago would have been madness, and even now until my safe return few had faith in the soundness of my judgment.

Your, &c.
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

No. 21.

Consul Robertson to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 19.)

Sir,

Canton, March 4, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of the despatch I addressed to Sir Rutherford Alcock, inclosing the despatch I received from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., with its inclosures, relative to the attack by the naval force on certain villages near Swatow in this province, a copy of which I inclosed in my despatch to you of the 6th ultimo; since the transmission of which I sent the Vice-Admiral a reply, copy of which I forwarded in the above-mentioned despatch to Sir Rutherford Alcock, and now inclose.

I have also the honour to forward translation of a despatch from the Viceroy to me, transmitting a copy of the Reports of the Taoutae and Prefect of Chao-chow-foo and the Commissioner sent from this to co-operate in the matter, with my reply, and my covering letter to Sir Rutherford Alcock forwarding the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Consul Robertson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Canton, February 13, 1869.

SINCE the date of my despatch of the 27th ultimo, reporting the attack made on the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" by a body of villagers in the neighbourhood of Swatow, and the measures that were about to be taken to punish this outrage, I have received a despatch from Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., marked Confidential, inclosing copy of the Report of Commodore Oliver Jones and of a despatch from Mr. Acting Consul Alabaster, copies of which I have the honour to inclose, together with my reply to the Vice-Admiral, and a Minute of the interview between Sir Henry Keppel and the Viceroy Juilin, which was drawn up subsequently to my forwarding despatch of the 27th ultimo to your Excellency.

From this you will see that Commodore Jones proceeded with Her Majesty's ships "Perseus" and "Rinaldo" and the gun-boat "Bouncer" to Swatow, where he arrived on the 28th ultimo, and found there the gun-boats "Leven" and "Cockchafer;" and, on hearing that the villagers were fortifying and preparing for resistance, he determined to proceed without waiting for the Viceroy's Commissioners or the Admiral, who were to follow. Accordingly on the following morning he landed in force, and, having been fired upon by the villagers, attacked and destroyed three villages with considerable loss of life on the part of the Chinese, but none on our side, or injury to speak of. The head men then sent in their submission, and the operations terminated. The Commodore's Report gives the full particulars.

I immediately waited upon the Viceroy, and informed him of the occurrence. His

Excellency was greatly disturbed at the news, and you will see in my reply to the Admiral a *résumé* of what took place at the interview.

I think Commodore Jones is much to blame in disregarding the arrangement for a joint co-operation. Had he awaited the arrival of the Commissioners, which took place whilst the attack was proceeding, a resort to force might have been avoided. As it is, the Viceroy, I conceive, has just cause for dissatisfaction and complaint, and I hope it will lead to nothing more serious.

The Viceroy informed me that he had received reports from the Taoutae of Chaou-chow-foo and other officials strongly animadverting upon Commodore Jones' action, which he said he would send for my perusal.

As this affair has appeared in the public prints, and been much commented upon, I thought it well to forward the correspondence to the Foreign Office, which I did in a despatch, copy of which I have the honour to transmit, with the hope that my having done so will meet with your Excellency's approval. I also forward copies of the inclosures referred to in the postscript to that despatch.

Your, &c.
(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Consul Robertson to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Canton, February 13, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd instant, with its inclosures, having reference to the proceedings of Commodore Oliver Jones at Swatow in punishing the villagers who fired upon the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer" on the 20th ultimo.

I lost no time in communicating in person with the Viceroy, who expressed much dissatisfaction at the disregard of the arrangement for a joint co-operation made between your Excellency and himself, and regretted that Commodore Jones should have thought it necessary to land his force and attack and destroy the villages in question with great loss of life, previous to your arrival and that of the Commissioners appointed to confer with you on the measures to be taken. He felt, he said, that the prestige of the Imperial Government had been injured, and his own authority lowered in the opinion of his subordinate officers and the people, by what had taken place.

I replied by expressing my regret also at the occurrence, but, as the villagers were known to intend fighting and were strengthening their position, Commodore Jones considered that less loss of life would be caused by immediate operations.

To this the Viceroy answered, Had Commodore Jones awaited the arrival of the Vice-Admiral and the Commissioners, probably no resort to force would have been necessary. His hasty action, however, has placed us all in the wrong, and he should feel great difficulty in reporting the matter to Peking.

Of course, I endeavoured to allay his Excellency's uneasiness, but there is no doubt he feels much aggrieved, and, I confess, I think with reason. Fortunately I made him fully aware that Commodore Jones acted upon his own convictions and responsibility, otherwise an occurrence of this kind might afford grounds for a grave misunderstanding.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

The Viceroy Juilin to Consul Robertson.

(Translation.)

Canton, February 8, 1869.

THE Viceroy received on the 25th ultimo the honourable Consul's despatch, in which he communicated the fact of a disturbance having been committed by country people near Swatow, resulting in the wounding of British officers and seamen; and he hereupon commissioned certain civil and military officials to proceed on board a gun-boat to Swatow for the purpose of investigating the affair, compelling the surrender [of the guilty parties], and reporting for superior action. A communication to this effect was forwarded to the honourable Consul. On the 6th instant the Viceroy further received the following despatch from the Taoutae and Prefect of Chao-chow-foo:—

“ A report has reached us to the effect that at noon on the 20th of January, certain English foreigners to the number of twenty and upwards, proceeded in three boats to the township of Ngow-ting Pao,* in the Ch'êng-hai district, and engaged in a fight with the country people, killing a large number of the inhabitants of Ngow-ting and the adjacent villages, the foreigners also having some of their number wounded. This announcement filled us with consternation and astonishment; and we instantly directed an official to proceed with all despatch to Swatow and join the local authorities in ascertaining the cause and details of this hostile collision, reporting the same to ourselves as a preliminary matter, and taking action also with the District Magistrate in restoring tranquillity, and viewing the scene of [and sufferers by] the affair. Shortly afterwards we received reports from the Sub-District Magistrate of To P'u and the District Magistrate of Ch'êng-hai to the following effect:—‘ On the day above-mentioned, the foreigners were on a shooting excursion in the country, when a crowd of small children collected around them to look on, and were laughing and enjoying the fun; but neither party understanding each other's language, the foreigners apprehended that there was a design to mock at them, and consequently grew angry. Upon this the elders of the place sought by gentle expostulations to appease them, but instead of this, they seized the elders to carry them away. The villagers hereupon came forward to rescue them, from which a fight arose, resulting in six of the villagers being killed and ten or fifteen wounded, four of the foreigners being also wounded, but none dangerously. No communication on the subject has been received from the Consul at the Magistracy; but joint measures have been actively instituted for the maintenance of order, and stringent injunctions have been laid upon the notables and elders of the various townships, to use every endeavour for controlling the younger members of the community, and to await the action of the authorities.’ The foregoing having come to hand, we were on the point of transmitting the report to your Excellency when, on the 25th instant, we received a despatch from the British Consul, Mr. Alabaster, stating that ‘ on the 20th instant Lieutenant Kerr, the officer commanding the man-of-war at Swatow, proceeded with a body of his men on board three boats flying the British flag to a conveniently spacious locality in this neighbourhood for purposes of drill. On passing through [the village of] Fow-lung,† the evil-disposed inhabitants of that village assailed them violently without provocation, and threw stones and bricks at the party. Lieutenant Kerr, apprehensive of a collision, landed with the design of seeking out the notables and elders in order that they might restrain the people. He met with one of the elders standing by and looking on without doing anything to keep the villagers in order, and remonstrated with him about the affair. The man made an excuse, saying that he had nothing to do with the matter, and Lieutenant Kerr consequently resolved upon taking him to Swatow and bringing him before the authorities. The lawless inhabitants, however, refusing to listen to reason, swarmed together, waving banners, and commenced an attack by a discharge of fire-arms. The seamen from the gun-boat had no alternative but to return the fire in self-defence, and Lieutenant Kerr at once re-embarked his men. The lawless villagers of Fow-lung, Tang-tun, and Ngow-ting, however, assembling to the number of some thousand or more, pursued the party as they went along, maintaining a heavy fire, and wounded eleven of the gun-boat's men. The wounded are now in the surgeon's hands, but it is impossible to say whether any loss of life among them will or will not be the result. The Consul has to bring this transaction to [the Taoutae's] notice. With reference to this communication the Taoutae ventures to observe to your Excellency that, according to the Treaty, when foreigners proceed to travel among the interior villages, a stamped passport must be obtained from the local authorities, or else, on a communication being made by the Consul, informing the Taoutae of the direction in which it is wished to travel, an official is appointed to proceed and co-operate with the local authorities and notables in joint measures for [the traveller's] protection, in order that disturbances may by these means be obviated. When foreigners, heretofore, have visited Chao-chow-foo, or have proceeded into the interior to travel or for shooting, the Taoutae has invariably sought to persuade them to desist from the intention, and has exhausted every effort to stop them, but unfortunately, owing to the foreigners being unimpressed with the local circumstances, it has been impossible to hinder their journeys. On all such occasions it has been incumbent on the Taoutae to appoint capable officials and to detail bodies of police and soldiers to afford protection along the route, and he has at the same time commanded the notables and elders of all the places adjacent to the line of travel to exhort the people to remain quiet, and to take all possible measures of precaution. Wherever foreigners have gone, a mob of sight-seers collects, and the ignorant rabble, with the idle lads and cow-boys of the place, follow at their heels and amuse themselves with laughter and uproar.

* Called Outang-pai in the naval reports.—W. F. M.

† Called Poleng in the naval reports.—W. F. M.

This is the inevitable consequence; but, owing to the exertions of the authorities and notables in staving off collisions and energetically smoothing matters down, it has been possible to dissipate threatened troubles and to preserve the peace. Of this state of affairs all the Consuls are, in fact, eye-witnesses, and it is well known to the members of the foreign community also; but, nevertheless, it is constantly urged in their interviews and correspondence, that this dispatching of officials and levying of braves is an unnecessary trouble. Thus, after an immense expenditure of effort on our part, they, on the other hand, persist in regarding it as mere child's play. When, however, a collision has been provoked, they seek to slip out of the difficulty by one pretext or another, and endeavour to cast the responsibility off their own shoulders. Then, not only do the people suffer injury at their hands, but, still further, ignorant of the difficulties that hamper their own authorities, they cherish feelings of discontent in their minds and cast obloquy [on the Government]. The above may show what embarrassments one meets with in dealing with foreign affairs. Thus, for instance, in the present case, where twenty or twenty-five foreigners proceeded to Ngow-ting, they neither applied for passports nor notified the local authorities, but pulled headlong,* with flags flying, straight into the villages most notorious for their turbulence and lawlessness. Mr. Alabaster, in the despatch received from him, states that they went there to drill; but is it possible that he does not know that a foreign military force going into the villages to drill must infallibly excite a general perturbation? Then again, when the elders of the village intervened for the purpose of maintaining order, and the elders themselves were seized to be carried away, it was no more than the natural consequence that the villagers came to the rescue and pursued the party. When, in addition, it is known that the locality is famous for its turbulence and lawlessness, and neither side would give way to the other, can it be wondered at that a collision ensued? The statements contained in Mr. Alabaster's despatch respecting the origin of the outbreak, do not agree with those elicited by the local authorities, and, moreover, he makes no mention whatever of the loss of life and wounds inflicted on the villagers. The rights of the case will not escape your Excellency's discrimination; whilst the other side, knowing well, as they do, that this affair did not arise from aggression on the part of the villagers, are certain to seek all possible means of raising other issues, in order to impose their view of the case on their own superior authorities. Thus, four days elapsed after the occurrence before a communication was sent in on the subject. The villagers, however, having suffered so heavy a loss, cannot be expected to submit patiently; yet, if both parties can be kept within bounds and not seek to take revenge, there would be no further cause for apprehension: but the Commissioner who was sent to report on the matter states that at his interview with Mr. Alabaster the latter signified extreme dissatisfaction, and said that he had applied to the military chief of his nation, who would shortly arrive at Swatow and would attack and take the villages in question. Should this really be the fact, these turbulent and refractory villages are certain to get wind of the intention and prepare for resistance, and in such a case the state of the country threatens to become desperate indeed. We have ordered the Magistrate and Special Commissioner and the Sub-Magistrate of To Pu to see Mr. Alabaster, and to arrange with him for a proper settlement of the affair on an equitable footing, as also to quiet the feelings of the notables and people of the villages, and [induce them] to await further inquiry and action, without any rash movement or attempt at revenge. In addition to these measures, we lay the matter before your Excellency, and beg that you will, if it seems fit in your judgment, communicate with the Consul at Canton, Mr. Robertson, or address the British Admiral at Hong Kong and urge him on no account to dispatch a naval force to Swatow; but, on the contrary, to enjoin upon the Consul there to act in consultation with the local authorities, both parties proceeding carefully and equitably after mature deliberation, thus affording satisfaction to Chinese and foreigners alike, and averting the danger of further disastrous occurrences. We await your Excellency's instructions, by which we shall be guided, &c."

On the same day with the foregoing, the Viceroy received an additional Report from the Taotai to the following effect:—

"On the 28th January, I received a despatch from Mr. Alabaster, stating that the eleven foreign man-of-war's men who were wounded are out of danger, and that he had applied to the Admiral at Hong Kong to bring a force to Swatow; and he requested, in addition, that I would proceed to Swatow to take joint action in the matter. I at once replied, stating that I would take my departure for that place on the 30th of January, and I gave orders, at the same time, to the officials Lin Yang-ki and Cheng Ming-tai to proceed in company with the District Magistrate, as a preliminary measure, to the aforesaid villages, and to direct the notables and elders to keep the younger men in order, and not allow them

* Lit., "blindfold."

to make any further attempt toward taking revenge. I, at the same time, wrote earnestly to Mr. Alabaster, begging him to hold back for a time the men-of-war from Hong Kong, and on no account to bring about a disaster on a great scale by taking an armed force against the villages, but that, on my arrival at Swatow, measures should be devised in concert for action, in conformity with the Treaty. On the 29th of January, just as I was getting ready to embark, I received expresses at midnight from the Sub-Magistrate of To Pu, and the Magistrate of the district, severally reporting that the foreigner's squadron had arrived at Swatow from Hong Kong, that [the Commander] had not landed, and the officials had been powerless to prevent [immediate action], and that on the 29th January [the Commander] had proceeded with a large number of armed boats, carrying 300 or 400 men, and had forcibly entered Tang-tun, Fow-lung, and the adjacent villages, upon which they made a general attack with artillery and small arms, and that the villagers, old and young, had dispersed in flight, not venturing to oppose resistance. The reports further stated that intelligence had been obtained by police-runners, who were sent to seek information, that all the villages had been burnt and a great number of the inhabitants, both male and female, killed, wounded, or carried off as prisoners. No exact returns had, however, up to that time been obtained, and it was not until long after dark that [the force] returned to the anchorage. On receipt of this intelligence I was indignant and horrified.

"At 7 A.M., on the 30th, I set out, intending to proceed with all possible dispatch and reach Swatow on the same day. I venture to observe that, according to the Treaty, British subjects committing any offence are to be dealt with exclusively by their own authorities, and Chinese guilty of any offence against British subjects are to receive punishment at the hands of the Chinese authorities; and justice, it is provided shall be equitably and impartially administered on both sides. Now, in the present case, the action of the foreigners in proceeding with a large armed force to the villages to drill was in itself certain to produce sensation and alarm; yet no previous notice was given to the local authorities, that they might take measures to preserve order. When a collision actually occurred, a large number of the villagers were killed and wounded, and although some of the foreigners were also wounded, still they incurred no loss of life, so that the villagers have already been the most grievous sufferers. Even allowing, however, that the villagers may be unquestionably in the wrong, it still remained a duty to act in conformity with the Treaty, and to leave the matter within the jurisdiction of the authorities; and in the event of the local authorities failing to act impartially, there would then still be time to set an avenging armament in motion. Far from this, however, on the heels of Mr. Alabaster's request that I would proceed to Swatow, and after interviews on two occasions between my Commissioners and himself, when he received the assurance that a thorough inquiry should be made into the affair, [he], after all, without any mutual consultation and agreement, precipitately took the naval force to attack the villages, and wantonly burned them down and destroyed their inhabitants. Such a proceeding was indeed a disaster that it was impossible to foresee.

"On my arrival at Swatow, at a personal interview, I exerted every effort to prevent [further action], and dispatched Commissioners to Tang-tun, Fow-lung, and the adjacent villages to obtain an accurate return of the killed and wounded among their inhabitants, and of the buildings burnt and destroyed, as also to assuage the popular excitement.

"I shall report further, as soon as possible, with all dispatch."

At the same time with the foregoing, the Viceroy also received a report, as follows, from his Special Commissioner, the Magistrate Kwo Yung:—

"Having received your Excellency's written orders on the 26th January to proceed to Swatow and institute action with reference to the collision between certain villagers and a British naval force, as also your Excellency's verbal instructions enjoining the course of action to be pursued, I embarked forthwith, in company with Lieutenant-Colonel Chang, on board the gun-boat 'Anlan,' and arrived at Hong Kong at noon on the 27th. Here I ascertained that the British had dispatched a force of 400 men, which had left the day previously; and Lieutenant-Colonel Chang thereupon went on shore to consult with the British military Chief. At 3 P.M. we got under way, and hastened forward day and night, against a head wind and a heavy sea. On the 29th at noon we reached Swatow, when we were astonished to find that early on the morning of that day Mr. Alabaster, the Consul, had proceeded in command of a naval and military force of 600 or 700 men, with which the villages had been attacked and taken and the houses burnt to the ground. The town of Swatow was also in a state of alarm and perturbation. The first thing I did was to send off the despatches for the local authorities with which your Excellency had charged me, and at the same time I hastened to prepare a communication (to the Consul), which I directed the military officer in command of the Swatow fort to take forward himself, in which I called upon him instantly to withdraw the armed force and return to Swatow for

the purpose of joint deliberation. Towards evening the Consul did, in fact, return with the force, and the public mind became somewhat quieted. On the following morning I had an interview with Mr. Alabaster, when he stated that the conduct of the villagers of Ngow-ting had been altogether too outrageous, and that, the British forces having arrived here, there was no other course but to proceed to the spot; yet that their intention was not that of [commencing] an attack, had not the villagers been the first to fire, which left no alternative but to go on. They were forced to fight, and some scores of the villagers had been killed and wounded; a like number of their dwellings having been burnt down, which would serve as a lesson to them for the future, whilst only two of the foreign troops had been wounded. The force was already returning when he received my despatch, he added; and now that the villagers themselves confessed that they had done wrong, all he required was that the elders should give bonds to abstain from further aggression on their part, whereupon they would be molested no farther. Finding this to be the position of affairs, all I could do was to urge him in the first place to send back the men-of-war, and to await, as regarded further measures, the directions of your Excellency on the receipt of Reports from hence. Mr. Alabaster thereupon sent back two of the men-of-war with the land forces the same evening, and the remainder of the force continues in a quiet state. I have directed the managers of the trade guilds to notify to the villagers that they must peaceably await the equitable arrangement of the grievance, and, on the arrival of all the authorities concerned, whatever measures appear necessary will be taken with a view to the most effectual settlement of the affair and to the prevention of a recurrence of difficulties. The above constitutes a summary of my proceedings on the two days subsequent to my arrival at Swatow."

On receipt of the above despatches the Viceroy has to observe that the XVIth Article of the British Treaty provides that "British subjects who may commit any crime in China shall be tried and punished by their own authorities, and that Chinese subjects guilty of any criminal act towards British subjects shall be arrested and punished by the Chinese authorities." The XVIIth Article provides that in any cases of insult or violence offered to British subjects, the local authorities shall at once take the necessary steps to afford protection and punish the offenders; and the IXth Article, in addition, prescribes that persons proceeding to the interior beyond a distance of 100 li must apply for passports; the provisions of this Article not applying to the crews of ships. There is no provision in the Treaty for proceeding to the interior to shoot, or for martial exercises. Now, in the present instance, as regards the original act of aggression, the British man-of-war's men, in proceeding to the interior to drill, were doing what the Treaty does not authorize; whilst, as regards the conduct of the villagers in throwing stones, undeniably wrong as this was, all that the British Naval Officer should have done was to report the affair to the Consul. Mr. Alabaster, in order that the latter might call upon the local authorities to take measures in conformity with the Treaty for maintaining order and severely punishing [the offenders]. That the Naval Officer should, on the contrary, have presumed to make one of the elders prisoners, thereby provoking a conflict which resulted in serious loss of life on the part of the villagers, was a proceeding which must be viewed as contrary to the provisions of the Treaty. On the receipt of the honourable Consul's original communication in relation to this matter, the Viceroy at once despatched civil and military officials to investigate and take action in the matter. This was in strict compliance with the Treaty; but before these officers had arrived, Mr. Alabaster had led the British forces to attack the villages, upon which a fire was opened that entailed a further heavy loss of life, and destroyed a large number of dwellings. The Viceroy, who has always looked with equal regard on the subjects of either country, is inspired, on perusing the Reports of this occurrence, with the profoundest sorrow. He has issued orders directing that accurate returns of the killed and wounded and of the houses destroyed be obtained, and that the necessary measures for appeasing and affording relief [to the sufferers] be taken; and it is his duty, in addition, to bring the foregoing to the notice of the honourable Consul, in order that he may transmit the same to his Excellency the British Minister [and request that his Excellency will] issue stringent instructions to the Consul at Swatow and all military forces, enjoining upon them that henceforward they must strictly abide by the provisions of the Treaty, in order to the due consolidation of amity and goodwill. The Viceroy further requests that the honourable Consul will inform him in reply of the steps he has taken, in order that the matter may be placed on record. He avails, &c.

Tung Chih, 7th year, 12th moon, 27th day.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

*Consul Robertson to the Viceroy Juilin.**Canton, February 27, 1869.*

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Viceroy's despatch of the 8th instant, forwarding copies of the Reports of the Taoutae and Prefect of Chao-chow-foo, and of the Special Commissioner, the Magistrate Kwo Yung, with reference to the events which have occurred, originating from the attack made by the villagers of Fow-lung, &c., near Swatow, upon the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer."

He has read these Reports with attention, and finds them generally erroneous; but as the Taoutae and Prefect were not present, and speak only from hearsay, mistakes in facts and circumstances are naturally to be expected. He observes, however, with regret, the hostile tone assumed by these officers, and their endeavours to palliate the conduct of the villagers, and thus excuse themselves from the blame that rests upon them for not keeping these people in order. Had they done their duty, the late unfortunate event would never have occurred.

The Undersigned, however, is unwilling to enter upon this subject. Unfortunately a collision has resulted, entailing loss of life and property, brought on in the first instance by the turbulence and violence of the villagers. He regrets Commodore Jones did not await the arrival of the Viceroy's Commissioners, before attacking the villages, in accordance with the arrangement between the Viceroy and his Excellency the Vice-Admiral. Whether he was justified or not in this proceeding, the Undersigned is not prepared to say, but he will forward the Viceroy's despatch and inclosures, as requested, to his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, for his consideration.

He takes, &c.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

Consul Robertson to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Canton, February 27, 1869.

IN continuation of my Report of the proceedings of Her Majesty's Naval Force in punishing the villagers of Fow-lung, &c., near Swatow, for firing upon the boats of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cockchafer," I have the honour to forward copies of a despatch to my address from the Viceroy, and my reply.

Your Excellency will see from the contents of the Viceroy's communication that he looks upon the action taken by Commodore Oliver Jones in a very grave light, no less than breach of Treaty; and undoubtedly it is so, if strictly viewed by the provisions of the XVIth Article. I feel, indeed, that we are placed so utterly in the wrong by the precipitate action of that officer, that I replied to the Viceroy's despatch as briefly and generally as possible, thinking it my duty, however, to remark upon the animus displayed in the Reports of the Taoutae and Prefect, caused, I have reason to believe, by a desire to shield themselves from the blame justly attachable to them for their laxity and misgovernment of the district. My efforts, however, have been directed to placing the matter in the light of an untoward affair, brought about by the notorious lawlessness and turbulence of the villagers, with the expression of my regret that Commodore Jones did not await the arrival of the Viceroy's Commissioners, previous to taking action in the matter.

Your, &c.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

No. 22.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 21.)

Sir,

Admiralty, April 20, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Commodore Jones, dated the 13th February, covering copies of a correspondence relative to the results of the late expedition to Swatow.

It is presumed that the inclosures to Commodore Jones' letter enumerated below have already been received at the Foreign Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Commodore Jones to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, February 13, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to send a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Alabaster, at Swatow, to Sir Rutherford Alcock, and one of a semi-official note which accompanied it, which I hope you will read with satisfaction, as showing the happy results of the expedition you did me the honour to place under my command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER J. JONES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Sir R. Alcock, February 8, 1869.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 19.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

Acting Consul Alabaster to Commodore Jones.

My dear Commodore,

Swatow, February 12, 1869.

I SEND herewith a copy of my closing despatches to Sir Rutherford, by which you will see that everything seems satisfactorily settled, and I have, therefore, thought it unnecessary to detain the "Janus" longer. I am going to Chao-chow-foo to-morrow or Monday, and coming down in my gig, which will settle the question decisively one way or another: for myself I do not anticipate the slightest objection being made to my progress; but the novelty of a foreign boat at the city may excite a little wonder, and, perhaps, a brickbat. I hope, however, not.

The lesson you have taught is very marked here in the difference of demeanour of the Swatow people, since the fight; they are now as civil as they were insolent.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 22, 1869.

I HAVE received from Mr. Alabaster a copy of his despatch to you of the 8th of February, reporting that the difficulties arising out of the "Cockchafer" affair had been settled.

I have already informed you of the views taken by Her Majesty's Government of that matter, and of the conduct of Her Majesty's Consular and Naval authorities in regard to it.

I cannot, however, but notice the postscript of Mr. Alabaster's despatch. He says: "A shooting party just returned reports having experienced perfect civility, even while passing the scene of a clan fight, and I purpose taking my gig to the city in a few days."

I have to instruct you to convey to Mr. Alabaster the expression of my surprise that, looking to the troubled state of the country, such a rash proceeding should, as it would seem, have been sanctioned by him, without any attempt to prevent it; and I have to desire that you will inform Her Majesty's Consuls generally that it is their duty to discountenance similar acts of imprudence on the part of British subjects, whom they will warn that they must not expect redress to be obtained for them for injuries to which they may have wantonly exposed themselves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Sir R. Alcock to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 1.)

My Lord,

Peking, March 3, 1869.

MR. ALABASTER, in charge at Swatow, informs me that he has forwarded direct to your Lordship copy of his despatches to me respecting a recent naval affair on the banks of the river between that port and Chao-chow-foo.

This district has long been notorious for the clan fights and the piratical habits of its inhabitants, who have commonly shown themselves far beyond the control of the Chinese authorities: no warrant of theirs could be executed, and it is not long since the chief authority of Chao-chow-foo sought the assistance of Her Majesty's Consul and the Commander of one of the gun-boats to that end.

The quarrel appears to have originated in a wholly unprovoked attack from the shore on one of the boats of the ship stationed at Swatow which was proceeding up the river with the Commander on board. Beginning with stones, it ended with gingall-shots, which wounded several men.

The Admiral, who seems to have had an interview with the Governor-General at Canton on the subject, determined at once to send up Commodore Jones with an adequate force to punish the assailants and effectually deter the leagued villages from any ulterior proceedings calculated to endanger foreign life and property, under the delusion that they were strong enough to do so with impunity.

Although this was not effected without a good deal of damage to the offending villages, and many of their piratical occupants were either killed or wounded in the onslaught which they were the first to provoke, there is not much to regret. Nothing but a trial of strength of this kind, and their total and hopeless defeat in fair fight, could have brought peace or any security to the river and neighbouring port, and sooner or later to such means we must inevitably have resorted, or been cut off from Chao-chow-foo, if not Swatow, and seen our trade destroyed by a turbulent federation of robbers and pirates who set all law at defiance, and were much too strong to be dealt with by their own authorities.

The opening of the river has brought me the mail of the 1st of January and numerous post despatches before the courier overland with the previous mail and correspondence, so that I have not the whole of Mr. Alabaster's reports; enough, however, to satisfy me that the naval operations were conducted with great spirit and with as little injury to life and property as the circumstances would allow. I have had verbal communication with the Tsung-li Yamên on the subject, of which they had only seen notices in the Shanghai newspapers; but they appear to me disposed to take the same view, and, admitting the lawless and turbulent character of the people, to recognize both the necessity for action and the merited nature of the punishment inflicted.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Correspondence respecting Attack on
Boats of Her Majesty's Ship "Cock-
chafer" by Villagers near Swatow.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 5d.*]

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CHINA. No. 8 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK

RESPECTING

MISSIONARIES AT HANKOW,

AND

STATE OF AFFAIRS

AT

VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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No. 1.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

Peking, January 13, 1869.

I INCLOSE correspondence between Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, the Senior Naval Officer, and myself.

The Yang-chow affair has been satisfactorily brought to a close not without trouble and serious effort, but I am yet waiting for information as to the result of measures to be taken in Formosa for the protection of British interests, and the redress of injuries chiefly inflicted upon missionaries. And as both authorities and Chinese colonists there are less under the control of the Central or even the Provincial Government, and a plot was discovered to waylay and attack both the Consul and the naval escort he was expected to have with him, it cannot be matter of surprise if there should be some serious collision.

In my despatch to Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, copy of which is herewith inclosed, I have referred to the terms in which your Lordship answered Mr. Lockhart and others when they addressed you last year, praying for greater facilities of access to the interior, and the inference I drew therefrom as to the views of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of missionary labours away from the ports.

If I have rightly interpreted these, your Lordship will, I have no doubt, approve the tenor of my despatches both to the Consul and the Naval Commander-in-chief. But the difficulties created by these outbreaks are so serious, and may be followed at any moment by such disastrous consequences to our interests in this country and to themselves, that I think it right to put Her Majesty's Government in possession of all the circumstances as they arise, in order that special instructions may be given if these should seem required.

So far as the Protestant Missions are concerned, it may well be matter of doubt whether they are justified, by any existing prospects of success, in provoking the dangers resulting from their attempts to establish missions in the interior, and away from the Treaty ports where alone they can be efficiently protected. It becomes undoubtedly matter for serious consideration how far Her Majesty's Government will be disposed to go in efforts to extend that protection beyond the circle of the ports, in the event of missionaries persevering in their present course of extending operations into the interior on their own responsibility and without much regard of consequences to themselves or to others.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Consul Caine to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Hankow, December 1, 1868.

IT appears to me that the naval authorities consider that this port does not require the presence of a vessel of war, except at irregular intervals and for short periods.

There was no gun-boat here on my arrival in the middle of July. The "Dove" arrived on the 30th of July, and left again on the 9th of October; since when we have had no vessel here.

On the 29th of October I applied to the Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai for protection, as in consequence of the inflammatory placards which were then appearing at Wuchang, I considered a breach of the peace very probable. No answer was received till

15th of November, and this stated it was out of the Senior Officer's power to detach a vessel. The "Opossum" would, however, be sent after her arrival at Shanghai. This vessel I am told has to be docked first and otherwise repaired. So that in from two to three months' time from the date of my requisition for immediate aid, it may be possible to have a vessel of war at this port.

The protection of Hankow over 600 miles up the Yang-tze, and with, at least, a from 3- to 4-knot current always running out, makes it, in my opinion, absolutely necessary that a vessel of war should always be present at the port, and should not when ordered away take her departure till the relief arrives.

The "Havoc" gun-boat could make no way against the current, and had to be towed up by one of the river steamers. The "Dove" was over a month on the passage.

These facts speak for themselves, and show that if the navy are to afford any protection, a vessel of war must be always stationed here.

Should the necessity arise for such aid it would take at least from ten to fourteen days after the despatch of a requisition for the fastest vessel the navy possess to reach Hankow.

I trust your Excellency will see the justice of my remarks, and prevail on the Naval Commander-in-chief to keep a vessel of war of some sort always on this station.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) G. W. CAINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Consul Caine to Captain Heneage.

Sir,

Hankow, October 29, 1868

FOR the last few days the people of Wuchang have shown great hostility towards the missionaries resident in the city, brought out I have no doubt by the Yang-chow affair, of which they only heard a short time since.

The Magistrate declines to help, and though I am doing my utmost to afford the missionaries every assistance through the Chinese officials, I fear my efforts may be unsuccessful unless supported by the presence of a British vessel of war.

Placards have appeared to-day threatening those people who rent buildings to the missionaries, and these latter have in consequence received from their landlords notice to quit.

This state of things must be stopped; and I have accordingly the honour to request that a vessel of war may be dispatched as speedily as possible to render assistance. I need scarcely inform you that a gun-boat could not get here under a month unless towed by one of the river steamers; the assistance I require is immediate, and there is no vessel of war nearer than Chin-kiang.

Missionaries are constantly being stoned when passing along Wuchang streets in the evening.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. CAINE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Captain Heneage to Consul Caine.

Sir,

"Rodney," off Nanking, November 8, 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, respecting the disturbed state of affairs at Hankow, and requesting that a vessel of war may be dispatched to render assistance.

In reply, I beg to inform you that at present I am unable to comply with your request as I have neither a vessel nor a gun-boat at my disposal; but the gun-boat "Opossum" is daily expected at Shanghai and shall be sent to Hankow as soon after her arrival as possible.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. HENEAGE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Caine.

Sir,

Peking, January 12, 1869.

WITH reference to your despatch of December last and its inclosures, I will communicate with the Naval Commander-in-chief on the subject. I may observe, however, that I do not consider it either necessary or possible for Her Majesty's Government to provide a gun-boat to be permanently stationed at every port, or at any one of the fourteen where Consular Establishments are maintained.

It should be possible, in ordinary circumstances, for Her Majesty's Consuls to conduct the business of their respective Consulates without the material support which might be afforded by the constant presence of a ship-of-war, otherwise there can be little advantage in a Treaty of Amity and Commerce. As an appeal to force by a Consul at any time could only be justified by some great emergency threatening danger to life and property, and for their protection, it may fairly be assumed that such occasions are exceptional and can only arise at long intervals. To meet such exceptional occasions it cannot be necessary to attach to each port a ship-of-war. That a force shall be always in the China Seas capable of affording effective aid whenever there should be necessity for an appeal from the Consuls, is all that can be looked for under existing relations.

I observe that you refer to the difficulty of gun-boats steaming up the Yang-tsze against a strong current as a reason for keeping one always on the spot. But at the same time you indicate how this disadvantage might be met in any case of emergency by the aid of one of the river steamers. If there were any obvious necessity, it is to be assumed no hesitation would be felt by the Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai in adopting this alternative.

In the particular instance to which you refer, the Senior Officer probably concluded that the result of the operations in which he was engaged with the squadron under his orders in the same river would be better calculated to afford efficient protection to British interests at Hankow from such danger as the placards at Wuchang might create, than any single vessel on the spot, even if one had been at his disposal; and I should have agreed with him.

With disturbances of a very serious nature at Formosa requiring the immediate presence of more than one ship-of-war, and the necessity of so distributing the force available for all exigencies from Singapore to Hakodate, it is quite obvious such distribution must be made as will best cover the whole ground. The best mode of doing this can only be determined by the Naval Commander-in-Chief, who alone knows what the means at his disposal will enable him to effect.

For these reasons, among others, I cannot make any request for a vessel to be permanently stationed at Hankow; but I will suggest that one, or if possible two, should be stationed in the Yang-tsze to meet the demands of the three ports, making Hankow the chief station, in view of the necessary delay in ascending the river against the current.

I will only add that if the missionaries cannot carry on their labours at Wuchang peaceably, and without an appeal to force for their protection, it seems very doubtful how far Her Majesty's Government will hold themselves justified in resorting to measures of a warlike character for their protection away from the ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 5 in No. 1.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, January 13, 1869.

MR. CAINE, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, has forwarded to me a correspondence with the Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai, which no doubt is already in your hands, respecting the permanent stationing of a vessel-of-war at his port.

I do not altogether agree with the Consul as to the necessity of the case, and doubt the possibility of your meeting such demands. I have, therefore, written a despatch for Mr. Caine's guidance, copy of which I beg to inclose.

That some danger existed at Wuchang of the same character as that lately incurred by the missionaries at Yang-chow and from precisely similar causes. I have no doubt. But, as you will see, I am not so clear as to the necessity for the missionaries fixing their

quarters in places where so much enmity is shown as to expose them to imminent danger, while it may entail upon Her Majesty's Government the obligation of adopting both coercive and hostile measures for their protection or the redress of their grievances. The inclosed copy of a despatch received some months ago from Lord Stanley is certainly written in this sense.

In the meantime, to guard, as far as possible, against any disastrous consequences, and serve as some check on the authorities so little disposed to prevent, if they do not excite, popular outbreaks against the missionaries at the ports or in their vicinity, I should be glad if it were in your power to station one, if not two, of Her Majesty's ships in the Yang-tsze, so that both Chin-kiang and Hankow might seldom be without a gun-boat or other ship so long as the turbulent spirit continues to be displayed, in order to secure to the Consul such material support as the presence of a vessel would afford.

In order that Her Majesty's Government may be fully informed on all points connected with these frequently-renewed missionary troubles and popular outbreaks, I purpose forwarding a copy of the correspondence to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that his Lordship may, if he see fit, send instructions as to the best mode of dealing with existing difficulties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of January, inclosing copies of your correspondence with Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow and Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, in regard to the suggestion of Mr. Consul Caine that one of Her Majesty's gun-boats should be permanently stationed at Hankow; and, in reply, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the instructions you addressed to Mr. Caine in answer to his application, as well as the letter you addressed to Sir H. Keppel upon this subject, which are in accordance with the spirit of the different instructions which have been recently sent to you from this office.

I have to add that I communicated your despatch to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and their Lordships have informed me that, with reference to your letter of the 13th of January to Sir H. Keppel, they doubt the expediency of stationing two ships of war in the Yang-tsze River, unless merely for a temporary purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 3.

Mr. Murray to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a copy of a despatch which his Lordship has addressed to Her Majesty's Minister in China,* in regard to a suggestion made by Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, that one of Her Majesty's gun-boats should be permanently stationed at that port.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

* No. 2.

No. 4.

Mr. Otway to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and with reference to Mr. Hammond's letter of the 31st ultimo, a copy of Sir R. Alcock's despatch relative to Mr. Consul Caine's application for a gun-boat to be stationed at Hankow.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. OTWAY.

No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Otway.—(Received April 12.)

Sir,

Admiralty, April 10, 1869.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 5th instant, transmitting copies of a correspondence which has taken place between Sir Rutherford Alcock, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow and the Senior Officer at Shanghai, relative to an application from the Consul for a gun-boat to be stationed at Hankow.

With reference to the suggestion made by Sir Rutherford Alcock that two vessels of war should be stationed in the Yang-tsze River, I am commanded by my Lords to acquaint you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, that they doubt the expediency of taking such a step, except for a temporary purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMANE.

No. 6.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 19, 1869.

IT was a great relief to Her Majesty's Government to receive on the 31st of March your telegram sent from Kiachta on the previous day, announcing that the accounts received by you from all the ports showed that peace and order had been restored; that at Yang-chow-foo and Swatow, and in Formosa, entire security and an improved position had been obtained; that there was no more cause for anxiety at any point; that the best understanding existed with the foreign body at Peking; and that the relations with China had never been more satisfactory.

The injudicious proceedings of missionaries in China, the violence engendered by them on the part of the Chinese authorities and people, and the excessive and unauthorized acts of retaliation to which British Consular and, at their requisition, the naval authorities had resorted, were indeed sufficient to cause Her Majesty's Government to look forward with apprehension to the intelligence which each succeeding mail might bring.

The various instructions which I have addressed to you on these matters will show you in how serious a light such transactions were looked upon by Her Majesty's Government, and the account that you will have read in the public papers of the debates in Parliament will leave no doubt on your mind, and it is to be hoped on the minds of all British subjects in China, whether in the public service or in a private capacity, that it is the intention and desire of this country that the intercourse with China should be maintained by friendly means, and should not be subject to interruption by injudicious and rash proceedings on the part of British subjects.

You have, as the Delegate of Her Majesty's Government, full power and authority to control the conduct of Consular Officers; the Board of Admiralty will take care that the policy of Her Majesty's Government shall not be thwarted or overborne by excessive zeal on the part of Her Majesty's navy; and if the powers which you possess under Order in Council for the maintenance of peace, order, and good government among British subjects resident in or resorting to China, and for the enforcement upon them of the observance of the stipulations of Treaties and of rules and regulations made in that behalf, and for the maintenance of friendly relations between British subjects and Chinese authorities and subjects, are insufficient for that purpose, Her Majesty's Government will at any time be ready to consider any representations that you may make as to the inadequacy of your powers, with a view of enlarging them to the full extent admitted by law.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

CHINA. No. 8 (1869).

Correspondence with Sir Rutherford
Alcock respecting Missionaries at
Hankow, and State of Affairs at various
Ports in China.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

CHINA. No. 9 (1869).

PAPERS

RESPECTING THE

PROCEEDINGS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP
“JANUS”

AT

SHARP PEAK ISLAND,

NEAR

FOO-CHOW-FOO.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Papers respecting the Proceedings of Her Majesty's Ship
"Janus" at Sharp Peak Island, near Foo-chow-foo.

No. 1.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 22.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April 21, 1869.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 23rd of February, and of its inclosure, from Lieutenant Keppel, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Janus," repeating his proceedings at Sharp Peak Island, River Min, and I am to request you will move his Lordship to inform my Lords what opinion he has arrived at as to the conduct of Her Majesty's Consul Sinclair in calling for the interference of Lieutenant Keppel.

With reference to the ready compliance of Lieutenant Keppel with the Consul's requisition, my Lords hope that the instructions recently sent out, will have a satisfactory effect in checking such proceedings.

It is presumed that the other inclosures to Sir H. Keppel's letter have already been received at the Foreign Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Salamis," at Shanghae, February 23, 1869.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copies of letters referring to the recent proceedings of Lieutenant Leicester C. Keppel, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Janus," at Sharp Peak Island, River Min.

2. The Rev. Mr. Wolfe, a missionary at Foo-chow, having obtained the title deeds of land at Sharp Peak Island, the natives would not permit the workmen to proceed with a building Mr. Wolfe intended to construct.

3. Mr. Consul Sinclair, in the requisition of which a copy is inclosed, requests Lieutenant Keppel to proceed to the neighbourhood and settle existing difficulties; after describing the chief instigator of these disturbances as one Wang-yew-chow, the Consul states that Mr. Wolfe will be able to point out the exact abode of this "meddlesome man," further recommending that a large force of cutlass-men should be landed in preference to the use of fire-arms.

4. Lieutenant Keppel proceeding to the house of Wang-yew-chow, threatened to pull it down should he not agree to the terms proposed. The result was a bond for future good behaviour, of which a copy is annexed, and also the accompanying copies of Mr. Sinclair's letters of approval.

5. Lieutenant Keppel appears to have cordially carried out the Consul's views in the matter, but in acquainting Her Majesty's Minister with these proceedings I have expressed an opinion that the action prompted by the Consul more properly devolved on the Chinese authorities, who were certainly fully competent to support their authority on a small island

backed by the ample force at their command at Foo-chow; in fact, it appears by the Consul's letter that the Viceroy of the Province had made the necessary arrangements to adjust the matter at issue; the interference of the "Janus" would, therefore, appear to have been unnecessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Lieutenant and Commander Keppel to Commodore Jones.

Sir, "Janus," Pagoda anchorage, Foo-chow, January 22, 1869.

HAVING received a communication from Mr. Charles Sinclair, Her Majesty's Consul at Foo-chow-foo, requesting me to give protection to the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, a missionary of this place, who had purchased a piece of land at Sharp Peak Island, on which to build a sanitarium for the mission;—a powerful gentleman by the name of Wang-yew-chow, residing at a place called Ting-tow, a village containing 9,000 inhabitants, had called on sixteen other villages, ordering them to drive all foreigners from off the lands, and had issued an edict to that effect, as they feared that foreigners would get too powerful a footing, and therefore monopolize all commerce coming to Foo-chow;—

I therefore proceeded to Sharp Peak Island on the 16th instant, with the Rev. Mr. Wolfe on board; and on our arrival landed accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Stocker, navigating sub-lieutenant, Mr. Skeen, engineer, and Mr. Dyer, gunner; we proceeded to the proposed site for the sanitarium, and discovered that the instruments and money belonging to the workmen had been taken, and that the workmen had been beaten. On our return, when inside the village, a large mob of about 600 people gathered round us, and the principal offender being pointed out to us, we endeavoured to capture him, when they attacked us, and as a last resource we were compelled to fire a few pistol-shots at the ringleaders; being almost dark at the time, we retreated to the house-boat.

The next day I landed with an armed force, and the villagers delivering up the instruments and money taken from the workmen and apologizing for the late outrage, and informing us that the men who attacked us came from other villages, and were sent for the purpose, I did not molest the place; and informed Mr. Sinclair of our proceedings, and requested a Mandarin to be sent to act with me. Mr. Sinclair had intended coming himself, but the late severe weather prevented him. I therefore on the 19th instant proceeded to Ting-tow, and there landed the small-arm men, and, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, marched to the residence of the chief instigator, Wang-yew-chow, whose residence is situated about a mile from the landing-place, and on our arrival I demanded an interview, which they endeavoured to evade by stating (through a servant) that Wang-yew-chow was absent at Foo-chow; but feeling convinced that such was not the case, after waiting a considerable time, we forced an entrance through the back, but all doors being closed deemed it advisable to force the main entrance, which was done. The natives seeing that it was of no use trying to oppose us, one of the elders agreed to convey the terms drawn up by Rev. Mr. Wolfe and myself to Wang-yew-chow, and also my intention of destroying his premises should he not agree to the terms proposed therein. At first there were no signs of their agreeing to the demands; I therefore ordered everything to be got ready for destroying the house, at which the terms were signed and witnessed by three of the elders.

I am confident that unless we had used the measures stated, they would have put off from time to time anything decided, and eventually even stricter measures would have had to be resorted to.

I inclose copy of a bond to keep the peace, and also copies of letters received from Mr. Sinclair, Her Majesty's Consul, in which he has most cordially acknowledged the services I have rendered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEICESTER C. KEPPEL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Consul Sinclair to Lieutenant and Commander Keppel.

Sir,

Foo-chow-foo, January 19, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to reply to your despatch, dated the 15th instant, which reached me on Sunday morning, the 17th of the month.

In the first place, I have to thank you for the assistance which, at my request, you have already rendered to Rev. Mr. Wolfe in his difficulties, which he has detailed to me.

I have already acquainted you, in my private note yesterday from the Pagoda anchorage, how it happened that the boatmen feared to take me on to Sharp Peak, in the gale that was blowing, on account of the danger they seemed to think the boat would incur against a head-wind and high waves; otherwise I had started with the intention of joining you at Sharp Peak, and aiding with my advice in the conduct of the affair in question.

I am, however, glad to say, that on the Saturday previous, the Prefect of Foo-chow-foo, and another officer had, by orders of the Viceroy, proceeded to Sharp Peak Island, for the purpose of quelling any disturbance that might arise on the part of the villages.

Should you require any farther assistance, I trust that you will acquaint me with your wishes.

It seems to me, that the opposition of the people on Sharp Peak Island, will not be withdrawn until some measures are devised to bring the chief instigator, by name Wang-yew-chow, in the Ting-tow village (just below Mingan, and on the same side), to relent in his unreasonable conduct and injurious interference. The Rev. Mr. Wolfe, who has, at my suggestion, made every inquiry as to the exact abode of this meddlesome man, will doubtless by this time be able to point it out to you.

I need scarcely recommend to you great caution in the use of firearms in dealing with the natives; while I would advise the landing of a large force of cutlass-men, which alone will be sufficient to intimidate and control the mob of villagers, should you determine on landing at the Ting-tow village for holding a parley with the village elder, Wang-yew-chow (above named), who is exercising pernicious influence over these ignorant villagers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. SINCLAIR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Bond to keep the Peace.

(Translation.)

WHEREAS the British missionary, Mr. Wolfe, has purchased at Chanushi Hill* a piece of ground 100 feet broad and about 100 feet wide, the title-deeds of which have already paid tax and been stamped without the least discussion on the part of the Chanushi villages, and whereas, in the 6th moon, the Undersigned issued notifications exciting every village to uncompromising hostility, to the violation of the provisions of the Treaty, and against the principles of rectitude, whilst Mr. Wolfe's intention in coming to erect a house was to seek a place of coolness, and without any other end in view, if his masons and carpenters hereafter proceed on his instructions, and within the limits of his territory, to erect his house, the people will not be allowed to tread in the old ruts of opposition, and the Undersigned guarantees that they will not make trouble. If the village on either the right or the left bank of the river hereafter excite disturbance by pulling down the premises or doing other mischief, the Undersigned will pay the sum of 10,000 dollars. This agreement he makes in good faith and of his own accord, that all troubles will hereafter be his affair. He will this day issue another notice instructing everyone to mind his own business, and hereafter, whether it be Mr. Wolfe's or any other person who seeks a summer residence here, all must remain friendly and not make any discussion; in proof whereof he makes this agreement.

(Signed)

WANG-YEW-CHOW.

(Seal.)

CHANG-NING-CHU.

TUNG-HANG-TING.

Witness:

(Signed)

WANG-HANG-CHI.

* Sharp Peak Island.

Inclosure 5 in No. 1.

Consul Sinclair to Lieutenant and Commander Keppel.

Sir,

Foo-chow-foo, January 21, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th instant, in which you are good enough to detail for my information, your successful proceedings at Pingtow village on the 19th of this month.

It is most gratifying to me to be able to express my sense of your admirable conduct of the business entrusted to your charge, through which the object we had in view has been entirely gained, of bringing the riotous villagers to their senses.

I beg leave to inclose translation of the bond of Wang-yew-chow, of the Pingtow village.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. SINCLAIR.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 23, 1869.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of the 21st instant, inclosing correspondence respecting certain proceedings of Her Majesty's Consular and Naval Officers in support of the claim of the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, a missionary, to a piece of land purchased by him for the use of the mission at Sharp Peak Island, near Foo-chow-foo.

The papers contained in your letter supply the only information that has reached Lord Clarendon on the subject, but they are sufficient to enable him to judge the Consul's proceedings; and I am to request that you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Sir Rutherford Alcock will be informed that they are entirely disapproved, except in so far as his application to the local authorities. Those authorities, it appears by the Consul's letter to Lieutenant Keppel of the 19th of January, were perfectly ready to obtain redress for the missionary, and it was inexcusable precipitancy on the part of the Consul not to await the result of the course which, on his representation, they might take; and even if that had been unsatisfactory, the case was not one calling for forcible interposition on the part of the Consul, or of the naval officer whom he instigated to apply it, without previous reference to Peking.

The Consul's measures had a direct tendency to provoke, without sufficient cause, collision with the Chinese authorities and people, and Sir R. Alcock will be instructed strongly to censure him for what he did, and to caution him to be more circumspect for the future.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 23, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government have received from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel copies of a correspondence respecting certain proceedings of Her Majesty's Consular and Naval Officers in support of the claim of the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, a missionary, to a piece of land purchased by him for the use of the mission at Sharp Peak Island, near Foo-chow-foo.

The papers forwarded by Sir H. Keppel supply the only information that has reached Her Majesty's Government on the subject; but they are sufficient to enable them to judge of the Consul's proceedings, which, I have to inform you, are entirely disapproved, except in so far as relates to his application to the local authorities.

Those authorities, it appears by Consul Sinclair's letter to Lieutenant Keppel of the 19th of January, were perfectly ready to obtain redress for the missionary, and it was inexcusable precipitancy on the part of Consul Sinclair not to await the result of the course which, on his representation, they might take; and, even if that had been

unsatisfactory, the case was not one calling for forcible interposition on the part of the Consul, or of the naval officer whom he instigated to apply it, without previous reference to Peking.

The Consul's measures had a direct tendency to provoke, without sufficient cause, collision with the Chinese authorities and people; and I have to instruct you strongly to censure Mr. Sinclair for what he did, and to caution him to be more circumspect for the future.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

CHINA. No. 9 (1869).

Papers respecting the Proceedings of
Her Majesty's Ship "Janus" at Sharp
Peak Island, near Foo-chow-foo.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[Price 1d.]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CHINA. No. 10 (1869).

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

ATTACK

ON

BRITISH PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES

AT

YANG-CHOW-FOO, AUGUST 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 11, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th ultimo, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, an extract of a letter from the London Missionary Society respecting missionary privileges in China, together with a copy of the reply which I have caused to be returned thereto.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 2.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 21, 1869.)

My Lord,

Peking, December 11, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch addressed to Mr. Consul Medhurst respecting the proceedings taken under my instructions at Yang-chow-foo, for the redress of the injuries inflicted on British subjects both at that place, the barrier above, and at Chin-kiang. Copies of Mr. Medhurst's despatches to me have already been forwarded, I understand, direct to the Foreign Office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERPORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, December 11, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 20th and 21st of November, with their inclosures, and learn with great satisfaction that you have been enabled to carry out my instructions respecting the Yang-chow outrage, and the exactions at the Huai-kuan barrier.

With reference to the reparation made to the missionaries, it seems complete, so far as their losses and expenses are concerned; but now that the medical certificate is before me, I see that three of the party, Mr. Taylor, Miss Blatchley, and Mr. Rudland, have suffered permanent and serious injury. Money, unfortunately, can afford no adequate compensation for injuries which cause permanent and disabling effects; but the sufferers are entitled to liberal consideration of the disabilities so contracted. I do not think 500 taels at all adequate, therefore, from this point of view, and have to instruct you to make a demand of 2,000 taels, to be equally divided among the three already named; and I trust, according to the distinct understanding on this head with the Commissioner and Viceroy, that you will have no difficulty in securing the prompt payment of the balance of 1,500 taels. You will take care to make it distinctly understood that this increased demand

* See "China No. 2 (1869)," Nos. 25 and 26.

is the consequence of undoubted evidence that each of these individuals has suffered in a way to entail permanent injury, tending to impair health and usefulness for the rest of their lives.

On one other point the result appears to leave something to regret. The literary graduate signalized by name by Messrs. Taylor, Duncan, &c., in their deposition before you, and described as having appeared before the house creating a disturbance, and to Mr. Taylor's face charging him with scooping out people's eyes and other atrocities,—described, too, as a man well known to the Tepao of the district,—should at least have been traced and confronted with Mr. Taylor, to whom he must have been known by sight, having reviled him in open day.

I am at a loss to know what Mr. Taylor means when he says in his letter to you of the 19th of November, "that there was no tangible evidence against the belted gentry." Was there not his own direct evidence against this one of their number, ready to be produced on oath and in open court? Chinese evidence, of course, in such a case, could never have been counted upon. Nor do I gather from your despatch of the 2nd whether any or what efforts were made to produce the accused and confront him with his accuser. To have secured the conviction of one of these gentry, if what Mr. Taylor alleges has any foundation in fact, that they were the real instigators of the whole disturbance, would have been more effective as a deterrent probably than all the other measures put together. As you yourself most probably shared this conviction, I conclude there must be some explanation more than you have yet given to account for total failure in this particular.

With reference to the settlement effected in the case of exactions at Huai-kuan barriers, I consider you exercised good judgment in not refusing to receive the compensation offered by Ying Taoutae, although it might, in some respects, have been more satisfactory had it been possible to exact redress on the spot. Under the circumstances, as detailed in your despatch, and the practical difficulties in the way of any navigation of the canal by the gun-boats to the barriers, however, I entirely approve the course adopted, as offering the best solution attainable. As to the punishment of the subordinates engaged in the affair, you were right still to insist on their punishment, and I will take steps here to press the investigation of the late Superintendent's conduct; I understand he is in Peking at this time. I will not fail also to bring under the favourable notice of the Prince of Kung, as you desire, the assistance rendered by his Excellency Ying, the Taoutae, in arriving at a prompt and satisfactory settlement.

You have not made any reference to the difficulties at Chin-kiang, both as regarded the outbreak against the missionaries, the distribution of inflammatory placards, and interference with the sale of opium by foreigners. I shall wait anxiously to hear that, before you left the vicinity, and while you had the support of the squadron, you were enabled to place all these matters on a proper footing; and, with that, I shall, no doubt, receive such reports from you of effective assistance from the Senior Naval Officer as will enable me to express my thanks, and bring the services rendered, together with your own exertions, under the notice of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 3.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 23.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 22, 1869.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a duplicate of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 10th December, together with its inclosures, relative to the settlement of the claims made on the Viceroy at Nanking in reference to outrages on British subjects at Yang-chow.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Salamis," at Singapore, December 10, 1868.*

IN my letter of the 5th November I had the honour to acquaint their Lordships with the particulars of outrages committed on British subjects at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang, and the consequent dispatch of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," accompanied by the "Rinaldo," "Icarus," and "Slaney" to Nanking, with a view to affording a moral support to Mr. Consul Medhurst in the demands he was instructed to make on the Viceroy for redress.

2. In the concluding portion of that letter I expressed an opinion that the authorities at Nanking, seeing we were in earnest, would at once concede on the appearance of such an unusual force as had been dispatched to their neighbourhood.

3. By the inclosed copy of a letter from Captain Heneage, their Lordships will observe that these anticipations have been fully realized.

4. As it was apparent that the Viceroy Tseng Kuo-fan rested his faith on diplomatic fencing to clear himself of the difficulty in which he was involved, it became indispensable to obtain a material guarantee for the full fulfilment of the demands detailed in Mr. Consul Medhurst's letter to the Viceroy, of which a copy is inclosed.

5. Captain Heneage, acting in concurrence with Her Majesty's Consul, demanded that the Chinese gun-boat "Tien-chi" should be handed over with this object. The effect of this step was immediate. The Viceroy Tseng Kwo-fan gave his entire and unqualified assent to all the demands Mr. Medhurst had previously made. The wisdom of this prompt act of Captain Heneage is proved by the result, and meets with my full approval.

6. Tseng Kwo-fan has been superseded as Viceroy at Nanking; and his Excellency the Viceroy Ma, who succeeds him, appears disposed to fully allow our Treaty rights.

7. Mr. Consul Medhurst, accompanied by the "Slaney" and "Dove," will proceed to Yang-chow in order to see that his demands are all strictly enforced; in the meantime, the "Tien-chi" will be retained as a guarantee.

8. The judgment which marked the prompt action of Captain Heneage during these difficulties will, I trust, meet with some mark of their Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Captain Heneage to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

*"Rodney," Yang-tsze-kiang, off the Grand Canal,
November 13, 1868.*

Sir,

IN accordance with my intention as expressed in letter of the 27th ultimo, on the 2nd instant, I had made every arrangement for proceeding in company with Her Majesty's ships "Rinaldo" and "Slaney," up the Yang-tsze-kiang, for the purpose of affording Her Majesty's Consul efficient support in obtaining proper redress for the outrage committed upon British missionaries in August last.

2. About noon, Her Majesty's ship "Icarus" arrived at Woo-sung, and, deeming it advisable to detain her until the duty I was about to commence should be completed, I ordered her to proceed to Shanghae, complete with coal, &c., and join my pennant up the Yang-tsze.

3. I left Woo-sung with Her Majesty's ships under my orders about 1:30 P.M. the same day; and the "Icarus" joined me on the morning of the 5th. We arrived and anchored off Chin-kiang on the evening of the 6th, where I found the "Dove."

4. On the 8th I left the "Dove" at Chin-kiang, for the purpose of sounding the Grand Canal, with the view of taking the "Slaney" and "Dove" off the city of Yang-chow on my return, and proceeded with Mr. Consul Medhurst on to Nanking, where I arrived the same day with Her Majesty's ships under my command, and found there the Chinese ship-of-war "Tien-chi," a handsome new paddle-wheel steamer.

5. With the object of having in our hands a guarantee for the proper adjustment of the negotiations, and the fulfilment of the Viceroy's pledges, should he engage to comply with the demands made upon him by Mr. Medhurst in his letter of the 6th instant, I deemed it advisable to send an officer on board with a letter addressed to the Commanding Officer, directing him not to attempt to move his vessel from the anchorage she then

occupied; at the same time informing him that forcible measures would be taken to detain her should he attempt to leave. I may add, that Her Majesty's Consul concurred in my action in this matter.

6. The Commander of the "Tien-chi" having reported what had happened, returned about 11 P.M., bringing with him an official despatch from the Viceroy, in which his Excellency pledged himself to accede to all the Consul's terms, which he now admitted just and reasonable.

7. On the 9th, I, in company with Mr. Medhurst, and attended by a guard of Marines, waited on Tseng Kwo-fan, who was supported by Ting Futai of Kiangsu. Both the Viceroy and Ting were induced to promise that a Proclamation should be issued under their seals, detailing the circumstances under which the Yang-chow outrage had been committed, and the manner in which redress had been granted with reference to the subject of a material guarantee being given for the proper fulfilment of their pledges. Ting strongly opposed any such proceeding, and finally refused to grant the request. On taking leave, I intimated that I should take charge of the "Tien-chi," unless an order under the Viceroy's seal for the temporary transfer of the vessel were received on board the "Rodney" by 5 P.M. that day. I need scarcely add, that at the hour named the requisite order was received.

8. We then called on Ma, the mandarin appointed to succeed Tseng Kwo-fan as Viceroy, &c., who received us courteously, and, on the 12th, his Excellency, who had in the meantime superseded Tseng Kwo-fan, paid an official visit to the "Rodney," and on leaving he was saluted with nineteen guns.

9. Two mandarins of high rank, the late Commissioner of the province of Kiangsu and the Taoutai of Shanghai, having been appointed to hold a formal inquiry at Yang-chow, in conjunction with Mr. Medhurst and myself, as demanded in paragraph 4 of inclosure, Her Majesty's ships under my command, with the "Tien-chi" under escort, left Nanking on the 13th, and anchored in line of battle off the Grand Canal.

10. In thus diverting Her Majesty's ships "Rinaldo," "Icarus," and "Slaney" from carrying out their respective orders, I have acted on the conviction that a large demonstration of force was absolutely necessary to secure success to the Mission, and I am happy to be able to state that the ready compliance which our demands have met with up to the present date is doubtless in a great measure attributable to the presence of so many ships of war off Nanking.

11. I now anticipate an early settlement of the difficulties, and I shall make it my duty to dispatch the various ships in execution of their respective orders as soon as possible.

12. I have addressed an official letter to Commodore Jones, informing him that I shall probably be enabled to dispatch the "Rinaldo" and "Slaney" about the latter part of this month.

13. From Hankow I have received from Mr. Consul Caine a despatch stating that affairs at that port are in rather a disturbed state, that the missionaries are being stoned, and that the presence of a ship-of-war was urgently required. In reply I informed him that I was then unable to send any ship to Hankow, but that Her Majesty's gun-boat "Opossum" was daily expected at Shanghai, and should be sent on as soon after her arrival as possible.

14. Her Majesty's ship "Zebra" arrived at Shanghai on the 7th instant, and I directed Commander Trollope to join me at Nanking with Her Majesty's ship under his command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. HENEAGE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

Consul Medhurst to the Viceroy Tseng Kwo-fan.

Sir, "Rodney," November 6, 1868.

ON the 31st ultimo I had the honour to inform your Excellency that I was on the point of proceeding for the second time to Nanking, charged with special instructions from Her Majesty's Minister in reference to the treatment of the Yang-chow difficulty.

2. I have now to acquaint you that I have arrived off your city, in company with Captain Heneage, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Rodney" and other vessels of war, and that we propose to wait upon your Excellency with a suitable number of officers at 1 o'clock on the 9th instant.

3. In order to save both your Excellency and myself any useless discussion, I beg to lay before you in writing the propositions which I contemplate presenting for your acceptance.

4. In the first place I propose to request you to appoint an officer of suitable rank, as promised by his Highness Prince Kung to Her Majesty's Minister, to proceed in my company to Yang-chow, and there to hold, in concert with myself, a formal Court of Inquiry into the charges which I have made against the official authorities and gentry of Yang-chow, of having aided and abetted in the outrage committed upon the missionaries in August last. I shall expect that the officer so appointed will have authority to summon before him, and if necessary detain for further trial and punishment any person, whether a member of the literary class or commoner, whom circumstances may render it expedient to examine publicly before the Court.

5. In the second place I desire to procure from your Excellency an admission of the justice of the demands which I have advanced in my several letters to the authorities of Yang-chow and yourself, as well as a distinct pledge under the Viceroy's seal that instructions shall be given to the proper authorities to see them all carried into effect forthwith.

6. As regards the amount of compensation which I have to require for the personal injuries sustained, I am instructed by Her Majesty's Minister that save where any permanent hurt can be shown to have been sustained by any of the missionary party, I am not to claim for anything beyond actual losses and expenses incurred, but I am authorized to see that proper indemnification is granted to the native proprietors of the mission premises or any other natives connected with their mission who may have suffered in person or property by the violence of the mob, or the unjustifiable action of the authorities. This is a point which I have yet to decide after further investigation, the result of which shall be duly communicated to you. I need scarcely add that it is essential that the above-mentioned concession on your Excellency's part should be made before I can consent to proceed with the proposed inquiry at Yang-chow.

7. I propose further to claim your attention to questions pending in connection with Chin-kiang and the Haikwan barriers. At the former place the missionary Taylor continues to experience obstructions in the way of a peaceful occupation of the premises which have been let to him in the city of Hsia In-chih, and I have to lodge a most serious complaint against the Superintendent of Inland Customs at the last named locality for having more than once vexatiously and illegally detained property belonging to a British subject whilst being conveyed under transit pass and certificate, and for having tortured and punished the native servants in charge.

8. The above constitute the principal questions which I propose submitting to your Excellency's notice; and I have to request that you will be prepared with positive replies in reference to each one, so that any further misapprehension or delay may be obviated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 4.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, inclosing a duplicate of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, relative to the settlement of the claims made on the Viceroy at Nanking with reference to the outrages committed on British subjects at Yang-chow-foo; and, in reply, I am to state to you that Lord Clarendon concludes that Sir H. Keppel will have been put in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government on this matter as expressed in the despatch to Sir R. Alcock,* a copy of which was transmitted to the Board of Admiralty in my letter of the 28th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

* See "China Papers, No. 2 (1869)," No. 24.

No. 5.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 25.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 24, 1869.

WITH reference to former correspondence, I am commanded by my Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, dated the 4th January, with its inclosure in original, reporting the final settlement of the demands made on the Viceroy at Nanking for redress on account of the outrages committed on British missionaries at Yang-chow.

The inclosures to Sir Henry Keppel's letter being sent in original, it is requested they may be returned when done with.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Princess Charlotte," Hong Kong, January 4, 1869.

IN my letter of the 13th December, I had the honour of informing their Lordships that the Viceroy of Nanking, Tseng Kwo-fan, had given his unqualified assent to the demands of Mr. Consul Medhurst for redress in reference to the outrages committed on British missionaries at Yang-chow, and that it was the intention of the Consul to proceed to that town accompanied with a naval force to see that his demands were strictly enforced.

2. I have now the honour to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter from Captain Algernon C. F. Heneage, of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," announcing the final compliance of the native authorities with the demands referred to, and the consequent embarkation of the seamen and marines landed as an escort at Yang-chow during the negotiations.

3. I have already directed their Lordships' attention to the cordial co-operation of Captain Heneage with Her Majesty's Consul, and to his prompt action in securing a material guarantee to ensure a full compliance with our claims, which at once made him master of the position, and was followed by immediate satisfaction.

4. The accompanying copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Minister in China, expressing his cordial thanks to Captain Heneage will, I trust, further assure their Lordships of the good services rendered by that officer, and I trust that the creditable behaviour and discipline of the officers, seamen, and marines, landed for a period of fourteen days (to which Her Majesty's Consul bears warm testimony), will be as gratifying to their Lordships as to myself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY KEPPEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Captain Heneage to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

"Rodney," off Chin-kiang, November 30, 1868.

IN my despatch dated the 13th of November I had the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's ships under my command had anchored off the Grand Canal with the Chinese steamer "Tien-chi" in charge, and that Li, the Salt Commissioner of Kiang-su and Ting, Taoutae, of Shanghai had been appointed to form, in concert with Mr. Medhurst and myself, a Court of Inquiry at Yang-chow.

2. I left Her Majesty's ship "Rodney" on the morning of the 14th of November with Her Majesty's Consul and an armed force of about 300 officers and men, selected from Her Majesty's ships "Rodney," "Rinaldo," and "Icarus," and half a field battery from the "Rodney," and proceeded up the Grand Canal in the gun-vessels "Slaney" and "Dove," attended by the "Rodney's" steam-launch and the "Faust," a small steamer kindly placed at my disposal by Messrs. Jardine and Matheson and Company of Shanghai. Our course up the canal was somewhat retarded by the frequent groundings of the

"Dove," owing to the intricacy of the navigation, I therefore landed the brigade about six miles from the city of Yang-chow, bivouacked there for the night, and on the following morning marched into the city, where we found the authorities had prepared for our reception a commodious temple (called Hsing Chiao-sze), which afforded ample accommodation for all.

3. The day following our arrival was occupied in the interchange of visits between the two Commissioners and Yang-chow authorities and ourselves, and we were everywhere treated with marked courtesy.

4. After the opening of the formal inquiry we were soon enabled to arrive at a perfect understanding as to the necessary arrangements to be made. We were assured that both the Chih-fu (or Prefect) and Chih-hsien had been degraded and dismissed from office. Three men from among the lower classes were handed over to the local Magistrate for trial and punishment, and active measures are now being taken to apprehend a fourth person, a literary graduate called K'o, who was one of the chief leaders in the riot, and who personally assaulted several of the missionaries. This man K'o is, however, the only member of the literary class against whom proof exists of having aided and abetted the rioters. The amount claimed for compensation to the missionaries for losses, &c., was agreed to without demur, and 500 taels were granted for permanent injuries sustained by some of them, while 150 dollars were awarded to two Chinese for a similar reason, and Mr. Taylor's expense in renting another house at Chin-kiang, amounting to 120 dollars, has been made good. A satisfactory Proclamation has been issued under the seals of the two Commissioners, detailing the true nature of the outrage which had been committed, and the punishment and redress which had followed upon it.

5. On the 19th, Mr. Taylor and his assistants were formally reinstated in their original house in Yang-chow, where a stone tablet is to be placed with a notice engraved upon it, stating that the house is rented with the approval of the local authorities and of Her Majesty's Consul, and that the residents are not to be interfered with, or molested in any way.

6. With reference to the illegal detention at the Haikwan Barrier of merchandize belonging to a Mr. Canny of Chin-kiang, referred to in paragraph 7 of the inclosure to my letter No. 36, the Commissioners agreed to pay Mr. Canny all losses and expenses incurred by him consequent on the detention complained of, and to fairly compensate the native servants who had been robbed, punished, and tortured while in charge of the goods.

7. I regret to say that the day after the completion of the above arrangements new complications arose by Mr. Medhurst receiving an official notice from Mr. Canny that a further stoppage of merchandize—*bond fide* British property of about 600 taels value—had occurred at the Haikwan barrier.

8. Taking into consideration the intricacy of the navigation of the Grand Canal, and also the distance of the barrier, about 80 miles from Yang-chow, I considered it unadvisable to attempt to proceed there in the gun-vessels, and I therefore requested the Commissioners to place eight junks at my disposal, as it was my intention to embark the force under my command for the purpose of proceeding to Huai-gan, with the object of relieving the goods and of investigating the circumstances of their illegal detention, and also to demand that due respect should be accorded to transit passes for the future, in accordance with the Treaty of Tien-tsin, so that the recurrence of similar acts might be obviated. The Commissioners having requested that I would consent to delay my departure during the space of three days to enable them to communicate with the Superintendent of Inland Customs at Huai-gan I complied with their request, and at the expiration of that time Mr. Medhurst received a despatch from the Superintendent of the barrier expressing extreme regret for the detention of the goods, which he stated had been caused by the acts of subordinates, which he could in no way justify, and also informing him that all British goods had been immediately released and conveyed to their several destinations, and that the transit passes issued by the British Consul at the various ports should henceforth be respected. In consequence of this prompt assurance on the part of the Superintendent that such illegal acts should henceforth be discontinued, Mr. Medhurst and myself deemed it unnecessary to carry out the proposed expedition.

9. All our demands now having been complied, excepting a few minor details, I considered the further detention of the "Tien-chi" might prove an inconvenience in the movements of the squadron by my being obliged to place a prize crew on board of her, the Commissioners had intimated their intention to discharge the crew unless the steamers were released. Mr. Medhurst and myself therefore demanded that the sum of 6,000 taels should be placed at the Consul's disposal, in lieu of the steamer, as a guarantee for the performance, on the part of the Yang-chow authorities, of their assurance to use their utmost endeavours to arrest the civilian K'o, who, from his social position, we deemed

highly desirable to make an example of. Failing the arrest of this man, K'o, the Yang-chow authorities themselves are to be reported to the Emperor for dismissal from office.

10. On the 25th the 6,000 taels guarantee were delivered to Mr. Medhurst, and the same day I addressed a letter to the Commander of the "Tien-chi," informing him that the embargo on the vessel under his command ceased on receipt of the letter.

11. Mr. Medhurst having officially informed me of the successful termination of the mission, I embarked the brigade on the 29th instant, and proceeded with the squadron to the anchorage off Chin-kiang on the 30th.

12. In this, my concluding report of my proceedings in connection with the Yang-chow difficulties, &c., I cannot omit to mention the willing and cordial support I invariably received from Mr. Consul Medhurst, and the perfect unanimity and accord that existed between that officer and myself when a material decision and co-operation were essentially necessary for the success of the mission entrusted to us. I beg at the same time to express my thanks to Major Crossman, R.E., who, whilst at Shanghai, hearing that an expedition was pending, kindly placed his professional service at my disposal, which, I need not add, I gratefully accepted. It affords me pleasure to bring to your favourable notice Commander Lord Charles Scott, R.N., Captain William Hall, R.M.L.I., (who respectively commanded the naval and marine battalions,) and the other officers employed on detached service, as well as the seamen and marines, who performed their duties throughout with zeal and general good conduct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. HENEAGE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

Sir R. Alcock to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Keppel.

Sir,

Peking, December 14, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Consul Medhurst reporting the termination of the negotiations in which he has been engaged, with the material aid and support of the Senior Naval Officer and the force under his command at Chin-kiang and Yang-chow. They have been crowned with a fuller measure of success than could have been safely anticipated, and without resorting to any actual force.

How much is this due to the energetic and efficient co-operation of Captain Heneage is evident from Mr. Medhurst's report, and I have to beg you will permit me through you to convey my best thanks to that officer, and those under his command. I have not failed to bring the valuable assistance rendered on this occasion under the special notice of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and although it falls more especially within your province to appreciate the credit due to the whole force as well as to the Senior Officer for the exemplary conduct of all the men while on shore, and the effective discipline maintained, I cannot refrain from the expression of my entire satisfaction at the result. Had there been any casual relaxation of discipline or a single act of drunkenness and brawling in the streets, it is impossible to say how disastrous might have been the results among such a hostile population upon the whole course of the negotiations. That no such untoward incidents occurred to mar the efforts made to obtain a peaceable solution of our difficulties cannot but reflect the highest credit on all engaged, and on the service to which they belong.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

(Extract.)

Yang-chow, November 26, 1868.

I MAY thus, I think, pronounce the objects of the mission to have been entirely fulfilled, and I trust that the results of my efforts may prove as acceptable to your Excellency as they are satisfactory to myself. The success which has attended them is, I honestly feel, mainly due to the energetic and efficient co-operation which I have throughout received from Captain Heneage. No obstacle has daunted him, no detail has wearied him, but he has followed me in the negotiation from beginning to end, even into its most

vexatious minutiae, with a helpful counsel and strong support which have been invaluable to me. Captain Heneage also merits at your Excellency's hands high praise for the manner in which he has placed a body of more than 300 men at this distance from the squadron, and for the perfect discipline which he has maintained in the force throughout its fourteen days' stay on shore. The latter feature has been so remarkable as to attract the observation and approbation of the Chinese Authorities, and I need scarcely point out how the slightest laxity in discipline might have irritated the people, and thus have worked prejudice to the very interest which it was our object to promote.

No. 6.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 26, 1869.)

My Lord,

Peking, December 14, 1868.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 11th instant, I have since received two further despatches from Mr. Consul Medhurst of November 26 and December 2, with their inclosures, completing his account of the measures taken at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang and their satisfactory results. As copies of these have been already forwarded direct to the Foreign Office by Mr. Medhurst, I only forward copy of my reply entirely approving of the action taken.

The report Mr. Medhurst makes of the energetic and efficient support he received from Captain Heneage and all under his orders is highly satisfactory, and I have no doubt that to such cordial and sustained co-operation is greatly to be attributed the entire success of the demonstration it was necessary to make. It is peculiarly gratifying to me to be enabled to bring this evidence of what can be done by intelligent and loyal co-operation, under your Lordship's attention; and I trust the valuable nature of the service rendered by Captain Heneage on this occasion may be specially reported to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I may be permitted to add that in my opinion the greatest praise is due to the senior officer and those under his command, for the perfect discipline maintained by the force of 300 men landed in the midst of a disaffected population, because I know from experience that nothing is more difficult to secure under such circumstances. A single act of drunkenness or disturbance might have defeated all the efforts that were being made to arrive at a satisfactory and peaceful termination; and that no such untoward incident complicated matters must reflect the highest credit on the officers, and speaks well for the discipline of and order of the whole force.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, December 14, 1868.

SINCE the despatch of the 12th instant, I have had the satisfaction to receive your despatches, with their inclosures, of the 26th November and 2nd of December, completing the account of your proceedings at Yang-chow and Chin-kiang.

I am now informed why you found it impossible to secure the conviction of Ko, the accused literary graduate; and can only hope that he may yet be found, and dealt with as he deserves if convicted of the acts laid to his charge. I approve of the steps taken by you to this end, and you will, of course, take steps to follow them up in the manner proposed.

I also approve of the discretion exercised by you in dealing with the point raised by the French Mission at Yang-chow.

I am glad to hear that, as I anticipated, you succeeded in obtaining a satisfactory adjustment of the Chin-kiang missionary question. As nothing farther is said of the opium monopoly, and complaints on that head, I infer you saw no occasion for further action.

The report you make of the energetic and efficient co-operation which you have throughout these delicate and responsible operations received from Captain Heneage, the Senior Naval Officer, is highly satisfactory. I have sent a copy to his Excellency Sir H. Keppel, the Naval Commander-in-chief, with a request that he would convey to

that officer my thanks for the important service rendered. By such cordial co-operation and combined effort alone, could results have been obtained which will go far, I trust, to check all farther manifestations of a hostile spirit, and an open disregard of all Treaty obligations on the part of the provincial authorities and the population under them. This had assumed so menacing an aspect, and its effects were so widely spread, that it became imperative to deal with it boldly, and show unmistakeably that there was both the power and the will to exact redress for the past, and enforce the better observance of Treaty stipulations in future.

I have much pleasure in conveying to you my cordial approval of your conduct throughout the negotiations, and bringing under the special notice of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs your own part in the work, as well as Captain Heneage's material aid.

You will convey to Messrs. Stronach and Allen the expression of my satisfaction at the favourable report you have made of their conduct during their attendance on this special service, which will also be made known to Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 7.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1869.

WITH reference to previous correspondence in regard to the Yang-chow outrage, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in China, bringing to his Lordship's notice the energetic and efficient support which Mr. Consul Medhurst received from Captain Heneage and those under his orders on the occasion in question, and requesting that the valuable nature of this service may be brought to the knowledge of the Board of Admiralty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 8.

Memorandum by the Directors of the London Missionary Society, respecting Missions in China.

ON Tuesday evening, March 9, the Duke of Somerset, speaking in his place in the House of Lords, commented in strong terms on the recent proceedings of certain missionaries in Yang-chow; and added, "Nobody is responsible for this mischief but the London Missionary Society." The Directors of that Society have read this statement with considerable surprise, because they are innocent in the matter; and since the reference made to it by Lord Clarendon himself did not clear up all the details, they venture to lay before his Lordship a very brief statement of the case, so far as it concerns themselves.

2. With the proceedings of the missionaries of the "Inland China Mission," who settled in Yang-chow, the Directors of the London Missionary Society had nothing whatever to do. Those proceedings, indeed, differ in many ways from the views and practices which have prevailed among the China missionaries of the London Missionary Society. Since the Treaty of 1842, that Society has employed many missionaries in the Chinese Empire; it had never less than twelve, and in recent years the staff has amounted to twenty. All these missionaries reside in Treaty ports, in the city of Peking, or in the island of Hong Kong. Except on three trifling occasions, when others interfered on their behalf, they have had no reason to apply to any British Consul for personal protection during the past twenty-five years. One of their missionaries was invited by Admiral Hope to accompany his expedition up the Yang-tsze, and aided the Admiral as interpreter. Another was for some years Medical Officer to the Legation at Peking. And a third, on recently quitting Hong Kong, received the public acknowledgments of the Governor and Council of that Colony for the services which he had rendered to its people during the long period of his residence there.

3. It was not because their missionaries had given the English Government any

trouble in China, but because they have never done so, and because the Directors are anxious, whenever practicable, cordially to co-operate with the English Government still, that they recently requested Lord Clarendon to give them his views of the amount of liberty secured to missionaries generally by the Treaties with China which are now in force.

(Signed) JOSEPH MULLENS, *Foreign Secretary.*
Mission House, March 11, 1869.

No. 9.

Consul Medhurst to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, January 27, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of my despatch of the 26th instant, with inclosure, to the address of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, January 26, 1869.

ADVERTING to my despatch dated the 26th November last, in which I reported my concluding arrangements in connection with the Yang-chow affair. I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the man Koh is at last reported to me officially as having been apprehended.

I had heard of his capture and identification previously from both Mr. Assistant Allen and Mr. Taylor, and it is in reply to an inquiry on the subject which I had in consequence addressed to the Taoutae of this place, that I have now received the official intimation referred to, a copy and translation of the letter is herewith inclosed.

I propose to depute Messrs. Stronach and Allen to visit Yang-chow, and cause the prisoner to be officially identified by Mr. Taylor in their presence, when they will likewise have the opportunity of judging for themselves in how far the pleas brought forward of dotage and insanity can be sustained.

As regards the question of the degree of criminality attachable severally to Koh and Liu-chun, I have suggested to the Taoutae the expediency of punishing both men as principals; the one in exciting the mob to violence and arson, the other in actually heading the plunderers in their forcible entry into the mission premises. The Taoutae has claimed permission to investigate the penal code as to the possibility of adopting this view.

Your, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Ning, Taoutae, to Consul Medhurst.

(Translation.)

Sir,

January 24, 1869.

IN reply to your note calling for an explanation as to the delay in reporting the capture of the man Koh, concerned in the Yang-chow outrage, who, you learn, has been arrested, and also inquiring the mode in which he will be punished. I beg to state that it is only this very day that the petition of the Kau-chuan magistrate came to hand. Koh, it appears, is 71 years old, and his full name is Koh Shou-chun. He has long been subject to mental disease, and is generally named "cracked Koh." Mr. Taylor has identified him.

I have directed the said magistrate that if this Koh is proved to be the ringleader, the punishment of Lin-chun and the other must be reduced to that laid down for accessories, and *vice versa*.

I have the honour to request the repayment of the deposit of 6,000 taels, at your earliest convenience, as the conditions have now been fulfilled, viz., the capture of the said Koh, under which it was returnable.

No. 10.

Consul Medhurst to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, February 25, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of my despatch of the 24th instant to the address of his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, forwarding copy of Mr. Acting Interpreter Stronach's report on his recent visit to Yang-chow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Consul Medhurst to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Shanghai, February 25, 1869.

REFERRING to my despatch dated 26th January, 1869, I have the honour to submit copy of a report of Mr. Stronach of the result of his visit to Yang-chow for the purpose of causing the prisoner Koh to be identified in his presence.

It is very satisfactory to find from Mr. Stronach's account that no traces of ill-feeling against foreigners appear to exist at Yang-chow.

Your, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mr. Stronach to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Shanghai, February 24, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in conformity with the instructions conveyed in your despatch of the 16th instant, Mr. Allen and myself proceeded to Yang-chow, and that in presence of ourselves, the Prefect, and the Kan-chuan, Magistrate, Messrs. Reid and Rudland of the China Inland Mission testified to the identity of a prisoner brought before us with the civilian Koh, who was a ringleader in the outrage of August last.

The prisoner is an old man and very evidently half-witted. He is stated not to be a Hsiu-ts'ai, although of the civilian class. He wore no decoration, and his appearance indicated that he had experienced the usual Chinese prison treatment. He broke out into a long and incoherent appeal for mercy which had at least the effect of enabling the missionaries to announce, if possible, more confidently the identity of the man, as his voice and manner irresistibly recalled the impressions of the night of terror.

We received every attention and civility from the local authorities, and the bearing of the people was satisfactory. The streets were crowded with idle holiday folk. Not an insulting expression met our ears.

I noticed that the Proclamation narrating the facts of the outrage and the retribution issued on the 20th November by the Commissioners Li and Ying was still on the wall and in neither a better nor a worse state of preservation than other notifications of about the same date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. STRONACH.

No. 11.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 23.)

My Lord,

Peking, February 4, 1869.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch of the 20th November last, I have the honour to inclose a further correspondence with the Prince of Kung on the Yang-chow disturbances.

It will be seen that His Imperial Highness took exception to Mr. Medhurst's action

in demanding from the Viceroy, as a material guarantee, the steamer which he found off Nanking under his Excellency's orders, and also to his having proceeded up the Grand Canal to Yang-chow with two gun-boats, landing a force of 300 men to accompany him, while he remained in the town.

In my reply, I defended the Consul's action as having been fully justified in my opinion—as regarded the demand for a material guarantee, by the conduct of the Viceroy and the other officials on his first mission, and, with reference to the armed force which he took with him, by the lawless violence which the Yang-chow populace had displayed under the eyes of the local authorities towards inoffensive missionaries.

I further pointed out to the Prince that whatever may have been distasteful to the Viceroy in the measures taken, had been rendered unavoidable by the persistent denial of redress on the part of his Excellency and the authorities under his orders at Yang-chow on the occasion of Mr. Medhurst's first visit. Had they acted with good faith when justice was first demanded, and granted such measures of redress as the Viceroy himself admitted was fitting on the second appeal, the necessity for the Consul's action, and the presence of a squadron off Nanking, would not have arisen, and all further chance of untoward complications might have been avoided. I trust your Lordship will approve the purport of my reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK:

P.S.—I beg also to inclose copy of a letter received from Mr. Taylor expressing his thanks for the benefit received.

R. A.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

The Prince of Kung to Sir R. Alcock.

(Translation.)

THE Prince of Kung, &c., makes a communication.

In the matter of the maltreatment of certain British missionaries at Yang-chow his Excellency the British Minister wrote that, as no satisfactory settlement had been effected at the time, it would be necessary to depute a competent high official to deal with the case. On this the Prince at once directed the Minister Superintendent at Shanghai to depute a high functionary of the rank of Provincial Judge or Intendent to accompany Mr. Medhurst to Yang-chow, there to re-open and settle the case. His Highness received, on the 9th and 23rd December, the joint Reports of their Excellencies the late Minister Superintendent Tseng and the newly appointed Minister Superintendent Ma, notifying the conclusion of the case.

Their Excellencies state that, "on the 1st November, and subsequently, we directed Li-yuen-hua, the recently appointed Provincial Judge of Kiangsu, and late Salt Commissioner of the District of Liang-huai, and Ying-pao-shih, the Intendent of the Su, Sung, Tao Circuit (the Shanghai Taoutae), to proceed to Yang-chow with Mr. Medhurst and settle the case. Meanwhile, on the 3rd November, Mr. Medhurst left Shanghai with a ship (or ships) of war. On the 9th November, as already agreed, Ying Taoutae and Mr. Medhurst came to the provincial capital (Nanking). There was a long discussion; Mr. Medhurst demanded a material guarantee in the shape of the new steamer in which Ying Taoutae had travelled, laying an absolute embargo on it pending the final conclusion of the case.

On the 15th November, Mr. Medhurst took two ships of war up to the Hsuning (South Gate) of Yang-chow. Himself, and with some 300 soldiers he had with him, occupied the Hsing Chiao-ssu within the city. Mr. Medhurst, the military officers, and the interpreter, met by appointment at the Wan Shou-ssu, and the matter was discussed thoroughly and in detail. With regard to the gentry indicated, it was conclusively shown that the suspicion of their having incited and caused the disturbance was the result of mistaken confidence in mere rumours, and as Mr. Medhurst could advance nothing to the contrary, that matter was allowed to drop.

The local officials have at various times apprehended three of the rioters, namely, Liu-chun, Chang Chin-chun, and Ko-piao. The Magistrate has been directed to secure the identification of the principal offender among them by Mr. Taylor and the head borough, that his punishment may be in accordance with his offence.

With regard to compensation, that has been paid according to Mr. Taylor's estimate for medical treatment, damages, and the expenses in procuring lodging caused by his flight

from the city. Mr. Medhurst has given a receipt for 1,228 taels 4 mace and 270 dollars 9 cents, which sums will be handed to Mr. Taylor by the Consul. The missionaries will reoccupy their premises. A joint Proclamation has been issued by their Excellencies Tsêng and Ma, the late and present Ministers Superintendent, and the Ting, the Lieutenant-Governor of Kiang-su, enjoining the military and populace of the three Prefectures of Huaian, Chiu-kiang and Yang-chow to respect the Treaty and not to molest or interfere with missionary establishments. The Prefect of Yang-chow has also furnished Mr. Taylor with a succinct Proclamation engraved on stone. These points were arranged on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of November, Mr. Medhurst expressing great satisfaction at the promptitude of the settlement. He left the neighbourhood (*lit. port*) with his war ships on the 28th November. The matter is thus concluded, &c.

The Prince would observe that directly these disturbances, wherein the missionaries suffered, occurred, the Minister Superintendent ordered the local officials to repair the house, and proposed the payment of 1,000 taels for medical charges, and to make good the losses incurred. At a later date the inefficient Prefect Sun and Magistrate Li were removed from office, while able officials in the persons of the Provincial Judge Li and the Shanghae Taoutae Ying were sent to Yang-chow with Mr. Medhurst to bring about an equitable settlement.

Again, the action taken on the several points agrees in the main with the demands made in his Excellency's despatch of October 10, which were the appointment of a high officer, the apprehension of the principal offenders, and increased compensation. Mr. Medhurst also has expressed himself well satisfied with (deeply grateful for) the promptitude of the settlement.

The Prince has now to forward to his Excellency the British Minister, for his information, copies of the Proclamation issued, and of a note from Mr. Medhurst to the Prefect of Yang-chow, with the above particulars of the closing of the case.

The Prince has now had the honour to receive Her Majesty's rescript, directing him to enjoin the provincial authorities to deal equitably with any missionary cases, should such again occur, in order that missionaries and people may live in harmony, and for the prevention of troubles. It will be for his Excellency the British Minister, on his part, to instruct the Consuls to notify the missionaries residing in the various provinces, that they must attend to their own proper business and not provoke troubles. Should difficulties arise, these should be discussed fairly, temperately, and in good faith.

In the present instance, while the matter is still under discussion, Mr. Medhurst all at once brings forward men-of-war, and would like to detain a new Chinese steamer as a guarantee. He has acted illiberally, and has missed the right way of dealing with the case. Such conduct does not at all accord with the desire to consolidate the friendly relations of the two countries, and it will be for his Excellency the British Minister to warn Mr. Medhurst not to act so for the future.

In reply to his Excellency, the Prince has to forward this statement of the circumstances attending the joint settlement of the Yang-chow missionary business.

A necessary communication, &c., to Sir R. Alcock.

The inclosures are the Viceroy's Proclamation, the inscription on the tablet set up by the Yang-chow Prefect in Mr. Taylor's house, and a note from Mr. Medhurst and Captain Heneage, thanking the Prefect and local authorities for the settlement. One hundred and twenty-two dollars have been left as a present to the official underlings who have been in attendance.

January 2, 1869.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Sir R. Alcock to the Prince of Kung.

Peking, January 26, 1869.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from your Imperial Highness, dated the 2nd instant, informing me of the steps taken for the satisfactory settlement of the questions arising out of the Yang-chow disturbances. I have also received a full report from Consul Medhurst; and the satisfactory nature of the settlement effected is, I conceive, a subject of congratulation for both countries.

I should not, in view of this result, have been disposed to return to the original grounds of complaint, had not your Imperial Highness taken exception to certain steps adopted by Mr. Consul Medhurst, as unnecessary, and not at all in accord with a desire to

consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries, which I feel bound to show were not only justifiable and expedient, but necessary, under the circumstances.

It is objected that Mr. Medhurst thought it necessary to insist upon a material guarantee for the due performance of any engagements entered into, and further, that he took ships of war with him to the city of Yang-chow, and landed with 300 men from the crews of the ships when he took up his temporary residence there.

To these objections I have to reply, that when the Consul first visited Nanking to make appeal to his Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan, Governor of the two provinces, and Superintendent of the southern ports, he proceeded there in one of Her Majesty's ships as was fitting when so employed, and received assurances that his demands for redress should be promptly and satisfactorily met.

He proceeded at once to Yang-chow for the purpose of seeing to the fulfilment of these promises, and found the Prefect and Chih-hsien only, bent on delusive proceedings, and screening offenders.

Seeing the hopelessness of obtaining any effective justice or redress at their hands, he returned to Nanking to make a further representation to the Governor, when unfortunately the Commander of the ship falling sick, she sailed for Shanghai, leaving the Consul behind to prosecute the negotiations. What was the result? His Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan, under pretext of pressing business, refused to grant another interview; and with a contemptuous disregard of all previous engagements and promises, simply offered 1,000 taels, instead of the compensation demanded for losses and injuries inflicted on the missionaries; not offered indeed as a compensation, but rather as a dole of charity. The whole of the proceeding, and the tone of the Governor's official communication, was an insult to the Consul of the Power he represented.

The Consul finding he was not listened to, and being thus insultingly dismissed as it were, returned to his post at Shanghai, and reported to me, as in duty bound, the whole affair.

I lost no time in personally making these circumstances known to your Imperial Highness, and the other Ministers of the Yamèn, and received the assurance that justice should be done, and orders transmitted without delay to the Governor of the two Provinces to appoint a Commissioner of fitting rank, with full powers to inquire into all the facts, in concert with Mr. Medhurst, and afford redress.

Warned by the ill-success of the Consul's previous efforts, and the treatment he had experienced, I deemed it necessary that he should be accompanied by a squadron of Her Majesty's ships to attest, and plainly mark the importance attached to his mission, and afford him whatever material support and protection might be required while engaged in carrying out his instructions.

Can it be said after the experience of bad faith, and contemptuous neglect with which he had been treated, more especially by his Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan, from the moment the ship of war left him on the previous occasion, that the Consul was not justified, on his second mission, in requiring from that officer some material guarantee for a more satisfactory result?

The demand was a necessary result of the proceedings of the high authorities at Nanking, which divested mere promises or assurances of all value, and destroyed confidence in the good faith of those who made them. It was not desirable that the same comedy should be played over again, of promises made only to be broken as soon as the squadron and Consul should take their departure; and the Consul had instructions not to leave until a satisfactory settlement was effected, with adequate guarantees for the execution of any engagements entered into. If there was anything objectionable or distasteful to the high authorities in the course taken of laying an embargo on the steamer, his Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan brought it upon himself by his previous conduct, and is alone to blame. As to the Consul's proceeding to Yang-chow with two small vessels, and landing a strong guard while he remained in the city, so far from its ill-according with a desire to consolidate friendly relations between the two countries, and a peaceable solution of the existing differences, I cannot help thinking it was the best possible guarantee for both. The real source of danger in all these cases lies in the supineness or connivance of the local authorities with those who are plotting violence and mischief against inoffensive foreigners; and the impunity which those disturbers of the peace are assured of in advance. The Consul could feel little confidence in a populace that so recently had nearly torn in pieces, and tried to burn alive a whole mission of defenceless men, women, and children, causing personal injury to three of the number (two of them women), as has since been conclusively established by medical examination and trustworthy evidence, and quite as little confidence in local authorities who in spite of all appeals for protection and ten days

warning that men of mark among the literati and gentry were plotting against their lives, and stirring the mob to acts of violence, allowed their culminating outrages to be perpetrated under their immediate jurisdiction, and almost under their eyes.

Had any insult or violence been offered to the Consul while engaged on this mission, it would have been so serious an offence as to render it difficult to maintain amicable relations, and thus have given rise to new complications. The event, I think, satisfactorily proved that the best way to secure peace on the part of the people of Yang-chow, was to be prepared to resist and punish violence.

Your Imperial Highness' observations on some other points cannot be passed over in silence. It is stated that, as reported to you no doubt, there was no foundation for the charges against any of the literati and gentry, whereas, on the contrary, the Consul was convinced the principal offender, one Koh, who was nowhere to be found, had hid himself for no other reason than his consciousness of guilt, and his knowledge that he could be identified by his accusers as having incited the mob. And it is one of the few points yet remaining in the engagements entered into by the authorities at Nanking that this individual shall be produced within two months and confronted with the evidence against him, to the strict fulfilment of which I must draw your Imperial Highness' attention. All the more so, that I am satisfied it is to the assured impunity members of this class habitually enjoy, through the connivance of those who are in office, whenever they incite the inhabitants to acts of violence against foreigners, that these dangerous outbreaks and disturbances are mainly due. If all the literati and gentry were, on the contrary, convinced that swift punishment would follow their misdeeds in this direction, notwithstanding any rank or influence, they would very soon cease to be disturbers of the peace.

The communication of your Imperial Highness closes with a request that I will notify the missionaries residing in the various provinces not to provoke troubles. As a class, I think it must be known all over China that British missionaries are peaceable subjects, offering no offence or provocation to any one, and seeking only to do good to all men. Until some evidence is before me, therefore, that they do not attend to their own proper calling, which is one of peace and good-will, but provoke troubles, I have no grounds for such a notification, and should not be justified in assuming that they required admonishment, or that their conduct laid them open to animadversion. At Yang-chow the vile charges brought against them of murdering children and other crimes were manifestly got up by persons only desirous of rousing the passions of the people against them, and who knew such charges had no shadow of foundation. If otherwise, why did they not produce their evidence in the Court, and establish the guilt of the parties accused? The crime of the local authorities was the greater, therefore, in allowing such libellous reports and placards to be circulated against innocent men and women without an effort to put down and punish all such calumniators, and still less effectually to protect the defenceless strangers trusting to the protection of the laws under their jurisdiction. If peace is to be maintained between the two countries, and friendly relations consolidated, it is essential that all the provincial authorities should be compelled to adopt a different line of conduct in future, and show more respect to Treaty rights and obligations.

I can only trust that your Imperial Highness will see the necessity of this, and enforce a like conviction on the minds of all those in authority throughout the provinces. But more especially does this seem needful in regard to the high officers. If his Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan, when Consul Medhurst first appealed to him for justice on the 11th September, had instituted a searching inquiry into the conduct of the Prefect and Chih-hsien and all concerned in the disturbances, with a sincere desire to arrive at the truth and do justice, there can be no doubt he would have arrived as easily and certainly then, as two months later, on the second visit of the Consul, at the conclusions he notified in his despatch to Mr. Medhurst on the 24th of the 9th month (8th November, 1868), that all the demands made by the British authorities from the beginning were just and reasonable, and should be conceded, and that the Prefect and Chih-hsien had alike failed in their duty and should be removed.

What was acknowledged by his Excellency Tseng Kwo-fan to be right, and a simple act of justice, in November, must have been equally so in September, when first the facts were laid before him; and it was no less obviously incumbent on a high authority in his Excellency's position to do justice at once, instead of denying it until the Consul was sent a second time with a squadron to obtain redress; for whatever danger of future complications there may have been in the interval at Chin-kiang and elsewhere, and of appearance of pressure and coercion in the end, it is manifest that his Excellency the Governor of the Two Provinces was solely and absolutely responsible. It was in his power to have prevented both. It was his duty under the Treaty to have done so, and I cannot help thinking he must now see it would have been his interest also, as it very certainly would

have been in the interests of peace and in accordance with a desire which should animate the authorities of both nations to consolidate existing friendly relations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

The Rev. J. Taylor to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir, *Yang-chow, December 28, 1869.*

PERMIT me to express, on behalf of myself, and those associated with me, our grateful appreciation of the measures your Excellency has taken, which have so successfully issued in our reinstatement in Yang-chow. We desire also to thank you for the indemnity procured for us, and those natives who suffered with us, and for the valuable proclamations obtained from the local and provincial authorities. And we feel the more grateful for these measures, because they will facilitate, as we believe, not only our work in Yang-chow, Chin-kiang, and Nanking, but Christian missions generally throughout the interior of China.

We trust that your Excellency will have the satisfaction of seeing great and permanent advantage accrue to British interests from the important and decisive action taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HUDSON TAYLOR.

No. 12.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 23.)

(Extract.)

Peking, February 11, 1869.

YOUR Lordship will have already received Mr. Medhurst's despatch from Shanghae of the 26th of January, reporting the arrest of Ko-li, one of two literary graduates inculpated as principals in provoking the outrages on the missionaries at Yang-chow.

I have approved the steps taken by Mr. Medhurst for the identification and the ultimate punishment of the prisoner, as will be seen by the inclosed copy of a despatch of this date, and at the same time directed him to deduct from the 6,000 taels now in his hands as a security, or otherwise secure, the additional compensation which I am satisfied is fairly due to the three persons injured, from the medical certificates already forwarded, after examination of the injuries.

In my letter to the Prince of Kung, a copy of which is inclosed in my despatch of the 4th instant,* communicating this decision under the power reserved to me by Mr. Medhurst's agreement with the high authorities at Nanking, I have stated the principles laid down in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st of December, that the local authorities should be compelled, out of their own resources, to make ample compensation to the sufferers wherever, as in this case, they were clearly responsible for the mischief which ensued.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir, *Peking, February 14, 1869.*

WITH reference to my despatch of 11th December, directing you to press a further claim of 1,500 taels, in compensation for the members of Mr. Taylor's mission injured by the mob at Yang-chow, and the application of the Taoutae inclosed in your despatch of the 26th ultimo, for the return of the sum of 6,000 taels lodged with you as a security for the fulfilment of the engagements entered into with you at Nanking, I now inclose you copy of an official communication I have made to his Imperial Highness the Prince of Kung on the subject.†

You will see that I have stated and consider the further claim of 1,500 taels justly due from the permanent nature of the injuries received; and that I have instructed you to

* See No. 11.

† See "China Papers, No. 3 (1869)," Inclosure 15 in No. 18.

demand it as strictly in accordance with the power reserved to me when you fixed the smaller sum, subject to my ulterior decision.

I have further, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in a recent despatch from Lord Stanley, intimated that I held the local authorities at Yang-chow to be responsible for the amount, by reason of their neglect of duty. And, under these circumstances, I have suggested that the said 1,500 taels should, in the first instance, be deducted by you from the 6,000 taels now in your hands, leaving it to the proper authorities to recover the amount from those held accountable for the Imperial or Provincial Treasury.

I trust you will have no difficulty in giving effect to these instructions; but as there is no time to receive any answer from His Imperial Highness before the courier leaves, you will, I think, do well to pay only the balance, 4,500 taels, back to the Taoutae pending the arrival of such answer, and lodging the 1,500 taels in the Oriental Bank until the question is finally determined between the Prince and myself, stating in your vindication that such are your instructions.

Your, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

No. 13.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th of February, reporting the settlement of the questions arising out of the missionary troubles at Yang-chow-foo.

The opinion of Her Majesty's Government on those matters has already been conveyed to you in my despatch of the 14th of January.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See "China Papers, No. 2 (1869)," No. 18.

CHINA. No. 10 (1869).

Further Correspondence respecting the
Attack on British Protestant Mission-
aries at Yang-chow-foo, August 1868.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

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ABSTRACT

OF

TRADE AND CUSTOMS REVENUE STATISTICS

FROM

1864 TO 1868,

PUBLISHED BY THE

IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
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CHINA. No. 11 (1869).

ABSTRACT of Trade and Customs Revenue Statistics from 1864 to 1868, published by the Imperial Maritime Customs.

Sir R. Alcock to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 19.)

My Lord,

Peking, April 7, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a publication of Trade Returns for the Chinese Treaty Ports, by the Imperial Maritime Customs: "An Abstract of Trade and Customs Revenue Statistics from 1864 to 1868."

I have, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure.

ABSTRACT of Trade and Customs Revenue Statistics, from 1864 to 1868.

[N.B.—The average value of the Shanghai tael is 6s. 2d. The picul is equal to 133½ lbs.]

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

ANNUAL VALUES FROM 1864 TO 1868.

(It has to be remembered that the want of Trade Statistics at Hong Kong makes the Returns of the Treaty Ports but an imperfect Statement of the Imports and Exports of China.)

			Imports.	Exports.	Total.
			Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
1864..	..	..	51,293,578	54,006,509	105,300,087
1865..	..	..	61,844,158	60,054,634	121,899,792
1866..	..	..	74,563,674	56,161,807	130,725,481
1867..	..	..	69,329,741	57,895,713	127,225,454
1868..	..	..	71,121,213	69,114,733	140,235,946

NOTE.—The value of the Home Trade carried on in Foreign Vessels is given at page 12.

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

FROM 1864 TO 1868.

	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Import duties	2,377,143	2,733,496	3,265,852	3,157,445	3,287,679
Export duties*	4,450,203	4,698,923	4,645,710	4,879,045	5,341,600
Transit dues	39,043	87,693	27,248	66,892	118,308
Tonnage dues	293,180	269,095	217,733	203,653	203,767
Coast trade duties	685,796	507,068	529,087	478,301	474,302
Total	7,845,365	8,296,275	8,685,630	8,785,336	9,425,656

* Under the head of Export Duties are included the export duties on native produce, carried from port to port for native consumption in foreign vessels. The amount of the latter may be fairly estimated by taking it as double the amount of the "coast trade," or half duty, paid on the produce at the ports where it is delivered; and, excepting 1864, when the coast trade duties were swelled by the deposits on tea, the revenue, of which the totals are given above, may, with tolerable correctness, be apportioned between the foreign and home trades as follows :—

FOREIGN TRADE.

	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Import duties	2,733,496	3,265,852	3,157,445	3,287,679
Export duties	3,684,786	3,587,537	3,922,444	4,392,997
Transit dues	87,693	27,248	66,892	118,308
Tonnage dues	269,095	217,733	203,653	203,767
Total	6,775,700	7,098,370	7,350,434	8,002,751

HOME TRADE.

	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Outward duties	1,014,137	1,058,173	956,601	948,603
Inward (coast trade) duties	507,068	529,087	478,301	474,302
Total	1,521,205	1,587,260	1,434,902	1,422,905
Grand Total	8,296,275	8,685,630	8,785,336	9,425,656

ANNUAL VALUE OF THE TRADE WITH EACH COUNTRY.

	1864.			1865.			1866.			1867.			1868.		
	Imported from.	Exported to	Total.	Imported from.	Exported to.	Total.	Imported from.	Exported to	Total.	Imported from.	Exported to	Total.	Imported from.	Exported to	Total.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Great Britain ..	11,650,758	36,327,556	47,978,314	12,369,787	37,007,880	49,377,167	15,673,297	34,097,250	49,770,547	18,830,010	33,367,784	52,197,794	24,478,843	42,040,836	66,519,679
Hong Kong*	10,246,599	7,997,274	18,243,873	18,121,585	9,921,163	28,042,748	18,794,207	9,977,546	28,771,753	14,177,243	8,119,094	22,296,337	15,672,685	8,970,289	24,642,974
India ..	25,705,818	173,930	25,879,748	26,388,210	14,162	26,402,372	35,328,351	77,815	35,406,166	31,915,604	366,908	32,282,412	26,098,085	264,530	26,382,615
United States of America ..	3,183,021	4,482,859	7,665,880	482,593	5,864,825	6,347,418	289,832	6,316,130	6,605,962	702,683	7,493,318	8,196,001	833,393	6,582,676	7,416,069
Japan* ..	1,832,205	344,947	2,177,152	2,454,478	271,970	2,726,448	2,932,568	742,325	3,674,893	2,214,489	1,180,702	3,395,191	2,614,007	937,482	3,551,489
Australia ..	187,861	1,638,429	1,826,290	335,201	2,080,341	2,415,542	481,896	1,874,274	2,356,170	2,575,578	734,718	3,123,474	743,718	2,849,636	3,584,354
Singapore and Straits ..	2,346,328	270,451	2,616,779	2,494,652	460,953	2,955,605	1,378,188	447,486	1,825,674	861,861	376,769	1,238,630	743,879	293,692	1,087,571
Continent of Europe ..	22,678	1,457,578	1,480,256	153,504	2,523,580	2,677,084	239,895	1,374,385	1,634,280	40,716	2,369,054	2,409,770	325,450	4,586,406	4,911,856
Siam ..	2,128,864	93,863	2,222,527	626,731	33,129	659,860	560,753	117,547	678,300	858,731	106,670	965,401	691,251	77,673	768,924
Philippine Islands ..	747,835	220,684	968,519	838,275	228,732	1,067,007	363,021	273,556	636,777	564,878	182,158	747,056	315,458	183,404	498,862
Java ..	309,854	181,905	491,759	392,877	182,141	575,018	350,460	160,378	510,838	266,055	235,215	501,270	264,887	228,028	492,915
Cochin China ..	218,679	33,266	251,945	410,062	49,724	459,786	320,059	64,025	384,084	..	182,221	627,973	383,710	46,274	429,984
British Channel ..	..	..	..	..	573,100	573,100	..	353,422	353,422	..	..	182,221	..	634,080	634,080
Amoor Provinces ..	..	6,546	6,546	52,252	1,129	53,381	162,754	8,846	171,600	103,684	182,221	121,930	93,913	7,834	101,747
South America ..	..	134,073	134,073	81,584	168,047	249,631	35,500	108,881	144,381	..	122,996	122,996	68,318	231,630	299,948
Canada ..	..	643,348	653,604	5,818	641,072	646,890	..	93,637	74,104	..	..	..	37	237,002	237,039
New Zealand ..	..	..	..	..	33,186	33,186	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102,899	102,899
Siberia and Russia, via Kiachta ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45,077	924,942	970,019	..	796,240	796,240
Cape of Good Hope...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35,667	35,667	..	44,122	44,122
Total ..	58,590,756	54,006,509	112,597,265	65,207,609	60,054,634	125,262,243	76,950,781	56,161,807	133,092,588	71,637,190	57,895,713	129,532,903	75,318,634	69,114,733	142,433,367
Less re-exports to foreign countries ..	7,297,178	..	7,297,178	3,363,451	..	3,363,451	2,367,107	..	2,367,107	2,307,449	..	2,307,449	2,197,421	..	2,197,421
Net Total ..	51,293,578	54,006,509	105,300,087	61,844,158	60,054,634	121,898,792	74,583,674	56,161,807	130,725,481	69,329,741	57,895,713	127,225,454	71,121,213	69,114,733	140,235,946

* The Imports from Hong Kong come originally from Great Britain, America, India, the Straits, and other countries.

In addition to the Imports entered at the Treaty Ports, to which the values given in the above Table are of course confined, the South of China is largely supplied with opium and other articles purchased by Chinese at Hong Kong. As the quantity of opium consumed in Hong Kong is comparatively trifling, the quantity brought into China without appearing in these Customs Returns must be nearly equal to the quantity by which the Hong Kong importation exceeds the entries at the Treaty Ports. That excess was—

	Piculs.	Value.
In 1865 ..	..	Taels.
1866 ..	..	20,390
1867 ..	..	9,175,500
1868 ..	..	16,834
	..	7,743,600
	..	25,582
	..	12,023,500
	..	7,029,900

IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium	Piculs ..	60,948 0	Taels. 31,994,576	53,915 0	Taels. 26,127,869
Cotton piece goods—					
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces ..	2,398,410	6,574,021	4,768,151	11,007,875
" white, plain	" ..	358,316	1,054,046	572,172	1,655,330
" " figured	" ..	77,409	253,920	81,475	193,666
" dyed, figured	" ..	128,958	479,564	121,170	342,296
Drills, jeans, and twills	" ..	251,635	1,164,014	400,485	1,570,237
T-cloths	" ..	730,604	1,745,346	2,049,521	4,040,639
Chintzes and furnitures	" ..	222,541	480,481	240,076	414,136
Fustians	" ..	51,131	357,365	63,688	414,080
Cambrics, jacconetts, lawns, and muslins..	" ..	31,320	43,944	42,665	51,376
Cotton goods, unclassified	Value ..	..	848,801	..	903,144
Cotton yarn and thread	Piculs ..	33,507 0	1,615,766	54,211 56	1,780,277
Total of Cotton goods	Value ..	..	14,617,268	..	22,373,056
Woollen goods—					
Alpaca	Pieces ..	9,650	48,526	236	2,117
Blankets	Pairs ..	6,656	24,958	2,539	14,529
Bombazettes	Pieces ..	7,290	33,835	13,547	94,120
Bunting	" ..	2,680	18,526	1,540	9,579
Camlets, English	" ..	97,601	1,106,732	104,896	1,380,676
" Dutch	" ..	1,459	34,190	2,954	65,442
" imitation	" ..	5,826	55,153	4,426	40,710
Cloth, broad, habit, and medium	" ..	29,382	866,882	23,104	609,683
Spanish stripes	" ..	69,051	928,401	71,071	934,153
Russian cloth	" ..	6,641	173,089	2,348	64,686
Flannel	" ..	3,177	41,726	2,110	23,757
Lastings	" ..	50,771	556,379	35,613	415,155
" crape	" ..	..	..	7,783	63,999
" imitation	" ..	..	..	2,409	21,403
Long ells	" ..	140,003	939,670	169,011	1,125,451
Lustres and Orleans, figured and plain	" ..	431,571	2,300,334	306,508	1,543,587
Woollen goods, unclassified	Value ..	..	39,958	..	28,164
" and cotton mixtures, unclassified ..	Pieces ..	40,707	222,867	19,016	74,303
Total of Woollen goods	Value ..	..	7,391,226	..	6,511,514
Woollen and silk mixtures	Pieces ..	100	1,400	..	..
Linen goods, unclassified	" ..	6,899	37,082	9,450	55,524
Canvas	Bolts ..	3,577	21,462	5,204	34,994
Total	Value ..	..	59,944	..	90,518
Metals—					
Copper, bar, and rod.. .. .	Piculs ..	6,991 0	109,296	8,317 21	108,645
" sheet and nails, and muntz metal ..	" ..	3,022 0	72,528	3,399 54	69,132
" old	" ..	501 0	4,509	66 23	680
" ore and unmanufactured	" ..	306 0	5,624	1,885 50	23,554
" wire	" ..	7 0	154	1 60	30
" manufactured and ware, unclassified..	" ..	323 0	5,906	20 82	413
Iron, nail rod	" ..	64,224 0	168,022	163,839 99	429,429
" bar	" ..	32,112 0	84,010	69,738 82	180,450
" hoop	" ..	..	..	695 86	2,003
" pig and kentledge	" ..	8,106 0	9,028	410 0	210
" ware and manufactured, unclassified ..	" ..	8,999 0	32,538	33,696 39	123,561
" unmanufactured, unclassified	" ..	..	..	4,943 49	6,176
Lead, in pigs	" ..	57,383 0	276,027	141,063 91	868,130
" tea and sheet	" ..	397 0	2,852	60 34	321
Quicksilver	" ..	3,666 0	184,293	5,847 32	324,231
Spelter and zinc	" ..	615 0	8,036	31 10	120
Steel	" ..	3,938 0	19,620	11,932 33	50,840
Tin, in slabs	" ..	31,758 0	633,101	45,121 79	904,644
" plates	" ..	1,744 0	13,081	6,439 58	35,916
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, as hard-ware, brass-ware, brass buttons, steel-ware, tin-ware, cutlery	Value ..	..	1,724	..	20,163
Total metals	" ..	..	1,630,351	..	3,148,648
Sugar, brown.. .. .	Piculs ..	124,176 0	434,616	142,341 60	412,543
" white	" ..	62,000 0	403,000	31,922 33	160,847
Betel nuts	" ..	8,839 0	26,517	12,113 14	46,479

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.		Taels.
Birds' nests	Piculs ..	487 0	207,468	479 0	217,033
Bicho de mar.	" ..	18,924 0	312,972	18,198 19	313,692
Cloves and spices	" ..	1,053 0	10,418	1,563 13	13,102
Coals	Tons ..	113,430 0	1,101,840	157,727 0	1,517,152
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	336,072 0	5,164,392	306,178 22	4,299,709
Fish, dry and salt	" ..	37,373 0	267,255	48,086 69	288,971
Flint stones	" ..	4,902 0	3,250	33,740 46	31,098
Ginseng	" ..	3,269 0	369,656	2,416 15	289,466
Grain and pulse	" ..	26,298 0	85,011	14,926 80	29,099
Indigo	" ..	11,613 0	58,065	17,366 38	133,884
Isinglass	" ..	2,648 0	79,451	2,935 72	83,727
Matches	Gross ..	79,236	79,236	172,530	162,576
Mangrove bark	Piculs ..	15,185 0	18,981	31,381 26	31,906
Needles	Mille ..	207,294	59,789	517,898	295,598
Pepper, black and white .. .	Piculs ..	54,428 0	310,028	42,753 83	254,932
Rattans	" ..	32,516 0	121,588	30,564 78	121,833
Rice	" ..	713,494 0	1,101,565	349,167 46	510,009
Seaweed, and agar agar .. .	" ..	221,485 0	573,298	214,083 91	489,107
Sandalwood	" ..	35,279 0	189,569	44,527 98	275,157
Sapan-wood	" ..	78,382 0	182,807	65,683 40	144,539
Wood, other sorts, unclassified	Value ..	..	60,619	..	84,050
Shell fish, awabi, shrimps, &c.	Piculs ..	13,157 0	125,740	12,612 98	127,139
Silk, raw	" ..	128 50	64,679	*	*
" manufactured	Pieces ..	..	..	..	..
Tea, Japan	Piculs ..	17,839 0	205,966	17,884 74	171,553
Timber of all kinds	Value ..	..	205,168	..	197,045
Window glass	Boxes ..	8,394	25,182	25,991	101,204
Wax, vegetable and tallow ..	Piculs ..	851 0	12,438	645 96	48,528
Sundries	Value ..	..	1,775,812	..	2,017,630
Grand total	Taels ..	..	69,329,741	..	71,121,213

EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.		Taels.
Silk, raw and thrown	Piculs ..	39,627	15,860,564	50,800	24,420,790
" refuse	" ..	2,632	113,924	4,801	274,879
" coarse and wild	" ..	5,363	511,954	6,546	688,095
" cocoons	" ..	573	39,598	1,783	102,885
" piece goods	" ..	4,008	2,172,370	3,568	1,947,258
" manufactured goods, unclassified	" ..	382	161,701	361	131,362
" worms' eggs	" ..	14	2,100	292	12,310
Tea, black	" ..	1,024,871	26,244,329	1,175,762	29,210,226
" green	" ..	223,385	7,584,094	197,903	7,304,979
" brick	" ..	65,293	717,500	53,143	531,407
" dust	" ..	18	165	14,063	125,403
Bags, of all kinds	Pieces ..	358,745	47,855	211,230	9,586
Bamboo, of all kinds, and ware	Value ..	..	66,240	..	46,437
Cassia lignea	Piculs ..	24,260	325,686	35,983	539,741
Camphor	" ..	5,075	61,596	12,152	91,512
Chinaware, earthenware, and pottery	" ..	32,361	121,303	15,672	139,239
Coals	" ..	11,366	1,194	56,330	5,915
Clothing, Chinese, boots and shoes	Value ..	..	97,644	..	90,843
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	29,391	458,424	38,141	587,821
" seed	" ..	405	276	..	..
" waste	" ..	301	686	12	132
Curios	Value ..	..	15,367	..	8,744
Dyes, colours, and paints ..	Piculs ..	359	13,364	304	11,434
Fans, of all kinds	Pieces ..	1,074,315	31,340	644,704	26,965
Fish,	Piculs ..	697	5,828	1,449	13,608
Fire crackers	" ..	16,186	128,218	20,701	159,987
Flour	" ..	948	2,103	792	1,511
Fruits, of all kinds	" ..	14,927	40,481	10,784	29,055
Fungus	" ..	36	1,030	19	528
Grains and pulse	" ..	53,723	70,942	2,112	5,012
Glassware, bangles, &c. ..	" ..	4,727	156,389	4,603	154,236
Grass cloth	" ..	363	25,412	302	31,820

* For 1868, the re-exportation of Raw Silk exceeded the amount imported during the Year.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.		Taels.
Hair, of all kinds	Piculs ..	37	423	14	90
Hemp, rope and twine	" ..	699	20,783	400	12,569
Hides, of all kinds	" ..	146	1,392	7	78
Hoofs,	" ..	370	569	89	181
Horns,	" ..	86	321	29	124
Indigo	" ..	548	16,983	254	8,027
Lungngans	" ..	2,635	13,180	4,324	28,424
Mats and matting	Pieces ..	218,490	384,542	152,164	351,797
Medicine	Piculs ..	6,060	45,224	5,446	36,149
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, as knives, cutlery, brass-ware, copper-ware, iron, tin, and pewter-ware	" ..	8,020	98,555	12,644	111,949
Metals, unmanufactured, unclassified	" ..	..	..	..	..
Musk	Catties ..	831	43,163	858	57,258
Nankeens	Piculs ..	441	21,160	238	13,791
Nut galls	" ..	6,964	54,473	10,465	65,621
Oil, of all kinds	" ..	1,142	9,549	261	4,914
Paper, of all kinds, and paper-ware, books, tin-foil, brass-foil	" ..	29,317	255,323	24,112	273,033
Preserves	" ..	12,669	103,446	7,782	63,902
Provisions and vegetables	" ..	19,703	34,303	15,470	22,983
Rattans and rattan-ware	" ..	395	3,206	456	4,229
Rhubarb	" ..	2,174	123,672	3,039	159,502
Safflower	" ..	1,828	116,818	481	15,008
Skins of all kinds	Pieces ..	23,160	5,501	11,324	1,281
Straw braid	Piculs ..	1,361	31,100	1,772	39,120
Sugar, white	" ..	46,570	253,127	41,341	174,899
" brown	" ..	29,325	99,889	75,356	184,319
" candy	" ..	13,229	109,141	12,597	94,489
Tobacco	" ..	1,459	25,403	737	11,722
Vermicelli and Macaroni	" ..	31,423	161,367	33,457	169,052
Wax	" ..	21	390	2	94
Wool	" ..	1,097	6,883	311	1,467
Sundries	Value ..	..	806,150	..	504,941
Total	Taels ..	..	57,895,713	..	69,114,733

RE-EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.		Taels.
Opium	Piculs ..	133	69,200	120	58,833
Cotton piece goods—					
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces ..	106,402	291,529	143,280	320,774
" white, plain	" ..	14,252	42,446	3,174	7,829
" figured	" ..	3,783	11,114	974	2,912
" dyed, figured	" ..	16,724	49,982	1,344	3,357
Drills, jeans, and twills	" ..	8,300	30,850	2,951	10,271
T-cloths	" ..	11,994	27,135	9,270	20,539
Chintzes and furnitures	" ..	18,417	47,537	9,273	22,260
Fustians	" ..	..	..	..	..
Cotton yarn and thread	Piculs ..	1,636	71,347	2,089	91,673
Cambrics, jacconets, lawns, and muslins	Pieces ..	22,566	33,807	12,108	12,470
Cotton goods, unclassified	Value ..	..	244,544	..	77,513
Total of Cotton goods	..	..	850,291	..	569,598
Woollen goods—					
Alpaca	Pieces ..	2,710	14,350	350	1,640
Blankets	Pairs ..	9,770	24,953	17,175	36,426
Bombazettes	Pieces ..	1,009	6,125	337	1,846
Buntings	" ..	70	660	..	..
Camlets, English	" ..	15,880	207,836	15,789	223,463
" Dutch	" ..	230	5,140	100	2,300
" imitation	" ..	650	7,000	430	3,180
Cloth, broad, habit, and medium	" ..	2,147	69,629	354	10,031
Spanish stripes	" ..	2,258	31,896	1,359	17,819
Russian cloth	" ..	806	22,930	252	7,500
Flannels	" ..	34	384	131	1,291
Lastings	" ..	6,230	73,518	2,445	28,038
" crape	" ..	1,280	10,910	..	..

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1867.		1868.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.		Taels.
Lastings, imitation	Pieces ..	520	3,680	320	1,600
Long ells	" ..	4,894	33,003	10,400	67,979
Lustres and Orleans, figured and plain ..	" ..	47,511	245,920	17,681	82,306
Woollen goods, unclassified	" ..	3,822	25,400	3,016	23,166
" and cotton mixtures, unclassified ..	" ..	10,952	66,692	2,376	8,078
Total of Woollen goods	Value ..	..	850,026	..	516,663
Woollen and linen mixtures	Pieces ..	..	..	..	..
" and silk mixtures	" ..	..	..	..	..
Linen goods, unclassified	" ..	508	4,580	641	4,239
Canvas	Bolts ..	701	4,568	1,237	8,049
Total	Value ..	..	9,148	..	12,288
Metals—					
Copper, bar and rod	Piculs ..	2,433	57,745	4,979	93,785
" sheet and nails, and Muntz metal ..	" ..	362	7,774	724	10,590
" old	" ..	2	30	..	..
" ore and unmanufactured	" ..	..	..	..	..
" wire	Catties ..	71	13	..	..
" manufactured and ware, unclassified ..	" ..	..	..	260	3,127
Iron, nail rod	Piculs ..	1,197	3,106	2,933	7,405
" bar		..	..	..	..
" hoop		1½	5	279	989
" pig and kentledge	" ..	648	828	601	705
" ware and manufactured, unclassified ..	" ..	3,137	18,633	1,420	4,607
" unmanufactured, unclassified	" ..	..	..	..	..
Lead, in pigs	" ..	2,554	12,846	16,837	93,190
" tea and sheet	" ..	47	374	300	1,366
Quicksilver	" ..	106	5,150	182	9,042
Spelter and zinc	" ..	17	101	3,086	14,437
Steel	" ..	9	71	8	66
Tin, in slabs	" ..	133	2,148	25	468
" plates	" ..	1,293	5,964	2,632	12,259
Manufactured, unclassified, such as hard- ware, brass-ware, brass buttons, steel- ware, tin-ware, cutlery, &c.	Value ..	..	3,805	..	1,184
Total of Metals	" ..	..	118,593	..	253,210
Sugar, brown	Piculs ..	14,755	50,122	165	500
" white	" ..	14,598	77,695	1,930	11,381
Betel nuts	" ..	10	61	337	445
Birds' nests	" ..	36	10,680	8	616
Bicho de mar	" ..	241	6,167	197	3,960
Cloves and spices	" ..	20	80	..	..
Coals	Tons ..	781	10,125	680	6,800
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	96	1,455	292	4,360
Fish, dry and salt	" ..	2,518	25,467	1,746	16,974
Flint stones	" ..	7	7	45	42
Ginseng	" ..	144	15,708	289	31,536
Grain and pulse	" ..	216	612	..	..
Indigo	" ..	50	240	..	..
Isinglass	" ..	111	3,527	347	9,735
Matches	Gross ..	590	528	464	552
Mangrove bark	Piculs ..	300	260	340	289
Needles	Mille ..	2,563	762	560	153
Pepper, black and white	Piculs ..	15	102	11	93
Rattans	" ..	127	508	83	277
Rice	" ..	..	..	850	1,650
Seaweed and agar agar	" ..	87	422	1,645	4,287
Sandalwood	Catties ..	70	3	220	15
Sapanwood	Piculs ..	482	1,108	250	550
Wood, other sorts, unclassified	" ..	381	3,838	1,157	3,455
Shell-fish, awabi, shrimps, &c.	" ..	1,366	28,784	959	22,607
Silk, raw	" ..	..	..	528	224,719
" manufactured and piece goods	Pieces ..	456	3,957	96	850
Tea, Japan	Piculs ..	3,381	50,714	15,024	208,663
Timber of all kinds	Value ..	..	2,732	..	2,286
Window glass	Boxes ..	80	300	353	3,217
Wax, vegetable, or tallow	Piculs ..	1,276	13,486	3,522	40,305
Sundries	Value ..	..	100,741	..	186,512
Grand Total	Taels ..	..	2,307,449	..	2,197,421

TEA.

Particulars of Export for the Year ending December 31, 1868.

	Congou.	Souchong.	Dust.	Mixed.	Pekoe.	Brick.	Colong.	Scented Capoe.	Orange Pekoe.	Souchong.	Young Hyson.	Hyson.	Hyson Skin.	Twankey.	Imperial.	Gunpowder.	Japan.	Sorts.	Total.
Great Britain ..	Piculs. 801,994	Piculs. 24,614	Piculs. 9,105	Piculs. 3,898	Piculs. 540	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 12,798	Piculs. 38,775	Piculs. 39,951	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 22,849	Piculs. 8,758	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 1,353	Piculs. 8,837	Piculs. 30,571	Piculs. 8,351	Piculs. 99	Piculs. 1,012,493
United States of America ..	Piculs. 2,517	Piculs. 4,170	Piculs. 316	Piculs. 49	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 50,911	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 13	Piculs. 1,489	Piculs. 65,947	Piculs. 11,039	Piculs. 225	Piculs. 5,819	Piculs. 13,316	Piculs. 20,859	Piculs. 5,540	Piculs. 11,943	Piculs. 194,153
Java ..	Piculs. 694	Piculs. 79	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 2,813	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 138	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 3,724
Canada ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 2,206	Piculs. 259	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 253	Piculs. 397	Piculs. 450	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 3,565
Continent of Europe ..	Piculs. 129	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 17	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 269	Piculs. 188	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 603
Siam ..	Piculs. 59	Piculs. 6	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 312	Piculs. 64	Piculs. 300	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 50	Piculs. 4,107	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 179	Piculs. 50	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 377
India ..	Piculs. 56	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 21	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 4,810
Manila ..	Piculs. 63	Piculs. 5	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 638	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 7	Piculs. 14	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 89
Straits ..	Piculs. 146	Piculs. 27	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 32	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 832
New Zealand ..	Piculs. 3,920	Piculs. 205	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 4,157
Japan ..	Piculs. 11	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 22
Australia ..	Piculs. 113,116	Piculs. 782	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 2	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 62	Piculs. 50	Piculs. 547	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 24	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 32	Piculs. 34	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 184	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 114,833
Hong Kong and Ports ..	Piculs. 22,526	Piculs. 5,247	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 258	Piculs. 3,686	Piculs. 47,446	Piculs. 8,143	Piculs. 3,653	Piculs. 2,946	Piculs. 602	Piculs. 1,023	Piculs. 1,954	Piculs. 135	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 349	Piculs. 1,964	Piculs. 175	Piculs. 4,187	Piculs. 104,294
Cochin China ..	Piculs. 17	Piculs. 1	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 273	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 10	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 301
Cape of Good Hope ..	Piculs. 357	Piculs. 1,228	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 197	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 712	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 1,782
Monte Video ..	Piculs. 361	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 831	Piculs. 75	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 131	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 1,073
Buenos Ayres ..	Piculs. 625	Piculs. 91	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 1,753
Siberia and Russia, <i>via</i> Kiachta ..	Piculs. 13,251	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 13,251
Callao ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 7	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 137	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 144
British Channel, for orders ..	Piculs. 21,919	Piculs. 3,566	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 3	Piculs. 121	Piculs. 53,123	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. ..	Piculs. 78,732
Total ..	Piculs. 981,761	Piculs. 40,021	Piculs. 9,421	Piculs. 4,407	Piculs. 4,351	Piculs. 100,569	Piculs. 75,995	Piculs. 42,542	Piculs. 45,339	Piculs. 2,465	Piculs. 92,099	Piculs. 26,121	Piculs. 392	Piculs. 7,459	Piculs. 23,168	Piculs. 54,526	Piculs. 14,116	Piculs. 16,236	Piculs. 1,540,988

COTTON GOODS.

QUANTITIES Imported of each variety—1867 and 1868.

Description of Goods.					1867.	1868.
Shirtings, plain, grey ..	..	..	Pieces	..	2,398,410	4,920,831
" " white ..	..	..	"	..	358,316	575,257
" " dyed ..	..	..	"	..	50,297	34,217
T-cloths ..	..	..	"	..	730,604	2,058,021
Shirtings, spots and brocades, white ..	..	..	"	..	77,409	82,449
" " " dyed ..	..	..	"	..	128,958	112,265
Drills, grey ..	..	..	"	..	228,427	87,475
" Dutch ..	..	..	"	..		72,701
" American ..	..	..	"	..		190,935
Sheetings ..	..	..	"	..	3,979	47,834
Jeans ..	..	..	"	..	22,776	40,514
Chintzes and furnitures ..	..	..	"	..	222,541	248,601
" Japan ..	..	..	"	..	2,058	40
Turkey red cloth, or cambrics ..	..	..	"	..	99,802	82,404
Damasks, dyed ..	..	..	"	..	31,772	33,799
Velvets ..	..	..	"	..	33,650	48,333
Velveteens ..	..	..	"	..	15,631	22,871
Fustians ..	..	..	"	..	1,850	
Cambrics ..	..	..	"	..	31,320	54,673
Lawns ..	..	..	"	..		
Muslins ..	..	..	"	..		
Dimities ..	..	..	"	..	6,744	34,400
Domestics, grey ..	..	..	"	..	2,298	2,817
Twills ..	..	..	"	..	432	11,766
Taffachelas ..	..	..	"	..	3,502	8,394
Ginghams ..	..	..	"	..	15,360	2,834
Cottonades, unclassified ..	..	..	"	..		22,814
Handkerchiefs ..	..	..	Doz.	..	151,530	196,437
Cotton yarn ..	..	..	Piculs	..	33,274	55,998
" thread ..	..	..	"	..	233	

SHIPPING.

Flag.	1864.		1865.		1866.		1867.		1868.	
	Vessels Entered and Cleared.	Tons.	Vessels Entered and Cleared.	Tons.	Vessels Entered and Cleared.	Tons.	Vessels Entered and Cleared.	Tons.	Vessels Entered and Cleared.	Tons.
American ..	5,036	2,609,390	4,721	2,645,906	3,602	1,957,687	2,926	1,673,754	3,623	2,237,327
Austrian ..	33	12,926	19	5,681	10	2,844	8	2,920	..	..
Belgian ..	22	5,520	8	2,262	2	622	2	1,600	2	1,206
British ..	7,915	2,862,214	7,798	3,467,980	8,276	3,921,851	7,964	3,711,080	7,165	3,332,092
Chinese ..	1,021	64,588	574	39,548	516	33,724	561	34,600	571	32,732
Danish ..	767	164,802	670	141,047	216	37,058	139	25,870	135	23,737
Dutch ..	197	59,471	176	56,090	194	69,883	252	82,628	124	35,106
French ..	247	93,099	295	94,687	234	108,918	217	112,587	249	139,165
Hawaiian ..	2	912	23	4,660	19	3,920	8	1,200	12	1,920
Italian ..	2	839	15	9,217	5	3,997	13	11,595	4	1,642
Japanese ..	2	756	..	..	4	1,966	1	809	12	4,168
North German ..	..	..	..	..	2,248	620,322	2,232	611,841	1,772	467,087
Bremen ..	292	83,324	428	122,869	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hamburgh ..	1,409	380,135	1,020	308,102	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hanover ..	157	30,026	134	21,894	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lübeck ..	24	7,452	14	3,734	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mecklenburg ..	53	10,518	20	3,704	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oldenburg ..	79	22,972	51	11,611	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prussian ..	187	46,143	205	45,278	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norway and Sweden ..	140	38,195	118	26,877	62	13,927	82	22,171	106	26,163
New Granadian ..	1	466	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portuguese ..	24	1,932	24	4,242	30	5,679	6	400	..	..
Peruvian ..	8	6,986	2	1,668	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian ..	21	9,198	29	11,452	19	4,172	54	8,987	32	12,099
Siamese ..	150	68,395	145	64,177	157	67,662	166	71,924	222	91,312
Spanish ..	69	20,359	85	21,621	18	23,350	71	21,863	44	11,147
San Salvador ..	102	34,867	54	21,994	..	..	2	986	2	1,600
Total ..	17,966	6,635,485	16,628	7,136,301	15,672	6,877,582	14,704	6,396,815	14,075	6,418,503

REVENUE.

Of each Port, 1868 and 1867.

Ports.	Import.			Export.			Tonnage Dues.			Coast Trade Duty.			Total, 1868.			Total, 1867.					
	T.	M.	C. C.	T.	M.	C. C.	T.	M.	C. C.	T.	M.	C. C.	T.	M.	C. C.	T.	M.	C. C.			
Shanghai ...	1,674,301	2	2	3	584,060	8	8	6	100,966	7	0	7	142,107	5	1	9	2,501,436	3	3	5	
Canton ...	243,044	1	3	9	586,913	3	2	6	17,746	5	0	0	18,565	3	1	8	934,774	6	7	7	
Swatow ...	187,130	4	6	0	154,646	3	9	8	13,800	1	0	0	26,536	0	3	0	420,863	1	4	5	
Amoy ...	235,671	0	6	4	158,597	4	7	9	14,562	3	0	0	17,213	9	4	5	503,327	8	0	1	
Foo-chow ...	214,030	4	4	3	1,557,747	4	3	7	18,145	7	0	0	23,437	4	3	0	1,708,658	4	9	9	
Takow ...	9,388	6	2	2	39,865	0	3	0	1,001	4	0	0	1,331	8	5	4	68,471	1	8	8	
Tamsuy ...	25,821	9	9	3	41,766	5	6	3	1,284	2	0	0	474	7	0	3	69,347	4	5	9	
Ningpo ...	152,197	3	1	2	377,500	0	7	6	7,765	6	0	0	30,445	8	2	3	567,908	8	1	1	
Chinkiang ...	1,020	0	3	9	17,910	5	4	1	3,336	5	2	8	10,827	9	7	5	23,814	8	2	5	
Kiu-kiang ...	273	4	4	3	529,225	9	9	3	2,952	3	0	0	21,642	6	5	8	426,507	1	7	5	
Hankow ...	904	7	2	3	1,104,693	9	0	9	3,360	7	0	0	43,720	8	1	5	943,857	0	7	5	
Che-foo ...	155,436	2	0	6	73,242	7	6	2	13,003	6	0	0	42,680	6	4	8	284,363	2	1	6	
Tientsin ...	284,619	9	3	5	34,068	2	1	9	3,838	5	0	0	68,068	6	3	0	390,605	2	8	4	
Newchwang ...	103,934	4	5	5	81,541	5	4	9	3,002	4	0	0	27,258	3	2	0	215,736	7	2	4	
Total, H. taels ...	3,287,679	0	5	5	5,341,600	2	1	8	203,766	5	3	5	474,301	6	6	8	9,307,347	4	7	6	
Add, transit dues at Shanghai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,728	3	1	6	
Ditto at Foo-chow ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,739	3	6	7	
Ditto at Swatow ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	0	7	4	
Ditto at Chinkiang ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,541	7	1	6	
Ditto at Kiu-kiang ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	196	2	6	0	
Ditto at Hankow ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100,090	6	0	8	
Total 1868, H. taels ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,425,655	8	1	7	
1867 ...	3,157,445	0	0	1	4,879,045	5	0	2	203,663	3	5	6	478,300	6	1	4	...	8,785,336	2	7	9

VALUE OF DIRECT FOREIGN TRADE OF EACH PORT,—1867 AND 1868.

Port.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1867.	1868.	1867.	1868.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Shanghai	46,570,534	50,478,917	29,228,074	39,153,329
Less re-exports, chiefly to Japan .	2,239,461	2,086,796	..	..
	44,331,073	48,392,121	..	..
Canton	7,856,771	7,039,743	10,552,394	11,296,764
Swatow	4,781,844	3,962,003	217,070	197,760
Amoy	5,295,402	4,485,680	1,763,052	1,128,149
Foo-chow	3,872,860	3,837,464	14,323,230	14,814,354
Takow	160,790	54,402	24,096	31,514
Tamsuy	398,558	351,143	61,638	99,128
Ningpo	749,744	604,471	5,680	33,448
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..
Kiu-kiang	..	..	..	45,735
Hankow	13,659	7,710	566,140	1,390,405
Che-foo	770,656	1,066,137	191,759	127,907
Tien-tsin	794,344	1,150,959	951,610	796,240
Newchwang	372,028	280,005	10,997	..
	69,397,729	71,231,838	..	..
Re-exports from all the other ports	67,988	116,625	..	..
Net total	69,329,741	71,121,213	57,895,713	69,114,733

ANNUAL VALUE of the whole Trade of each Port in Foreign Goods, and in Chinese Produce, carried in Foreign Vessels,—1865 to 1868.

	1865.		1866.		1867.		1868.	
		Total of each Port.		Total of each Port.		Total of each Port.		Total of each Port.
Shanghai—	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign goods imported . . .	10,617,005		11,862,505		12,872,525		12,454,880	
Chinese, ditto	5,643,595		5,883,063		5,626,675		6,657,875	
Exports	21,826,381		17,517,469		19,593,901		27,710,516	
Hankow—		38,086,981		35,263,036		38,093,101		46,823,271
Foreign goods imported . . .	8,445,545		11,836,880		10,294,656		9,852,797	
Chinese, ditto	2,178,089		4,801,053		7,886,038		5,135,817	
Exports	12,621,639		14,173,290		12,406,632		15,451,567	
Canton—		23,245,273		30,911,218		30,537,026		30,470,181
Foreign goods imported . . .	6,775,938		9,893,838		7,812,994		6,946,711	
Chinese, ditto	919,347		547,968		2,695,971		2,673,838	
Exports	13,485,307		14,060,233		13,787,171		13,841,116	
Poo-chow—		21,180,482		24,502,027		24,296,136		48,765
Foreign goods imported . . .	2,900,176		4,520,985		4,027,118		3,903,691	
Chinese, ditto	3,106,915		3,820,640		3,960,718		2,318,576	
Exports	15,984,331		14,482,447		15,579,956		16,117,730	
Tien-tsin—		21,991,422		22,824,072		23,457,793		22,338,997
Foreign goods imported . . .	7,724,571		12,009,232		9,252,155		11,651,871	
Chinese, ditto	4,127,866		4,574,285		4,244,942		4,790,267	
Exports	1,697,188		2,687,605		1,233,197		944,751	
Ningpo—		13,549,595		19,271,062		14,720,294		17,386,889
Foreign goods imported . . .	3,947,270		3,891,446		4,748,215		4,720,063	
Chinese, ditto	2,242,363		2,262,419		1,984,741		1,808,661	
Exports	5,081,457		6,432,297		5,832,585		6,070,721	
Swatow—		11,271,090		12,586,162		12,563,541		12,599,445
Foreign goods imported . . .	4,078,788		4,671,018		4,725,047		3,955,513	
Chinese, ditto	3,110,119		4,428,690		4,244,942		1,778,329	
Exports	2,961,885		3,663,557		2,934,799		2,793,668	
Amoy—		10,150,792		12,733,265		11,826,941		8,527,510
Foreign goods imported . . .	6,282,689		4,742,343		4,654,581		3,901,763	
Chinese, ditto	3,529,126		3,221,233		2,706,027		1,664,549	
Exports	2,011,086		2,961,617		2,697,793		2,373,819	
Kiu-kiang—		10,682,901		10,925,193		10,058,401		7,940,181
Foreign goods imported . . .	2,625,535		2,678,459		2,636,381		2,869,545	
Chinese, ditto	626,076		1,110,306		865,438		794,314	
Exports	6,273,330		6,170,202		4,556,780		7,683,993	
Che-foo—		9,525,541		9,958,967		7,680,609		11,147,852
Foreign goods imported . . .	3,342,908		4,173,948		3,203,188		4,662,641	
Chinese, ditto	1,178,482		1,793,294		1,494,416		2,352,454	
Exports	2,527,330		2,633,299		1,567,769		1,523,611	
Chinkiang—		7,048,730		8,610,541		6,265,373		8,538,706
Foreign goods imported . . .	3,293,290		3,439,025		3,336,618		3,656,863	
Chinese, ditto	3,024,385		2,407,813		2,084,256		2,037,117	
Exports	952,147		692,861		385,928		441,919	
Newchwang—		7,269,8		6,439,699		5,806,802		6,135,899
Foreign goods imported . . .	1,277,973		2,027,309		2,254,474		2,784,887	
Chinese, ditto	383,286		297,198		796,160		2,130,951	
Exports	2,167,314		1,919,980		2,393,587		1,591,619	
Takow—		3,626,573		4,244,337		5,444,230		6,507,457
Foreign goods imported . . .	641,927		779,066		867,128		648,099	
Chinese, ditto	418,210		411,576		300,008		300,680	
Exports	751,276		869,046		855,812		704,124	
Tamsui—		1,811,413		2,059,668		2,022,948		1,442,908
Foreign goods imported . . .	472,153		620,903		664,016		551,511	
Chinese, ditto	71,905		84,885		49,599		36,962	
Exports	236,942		252,814		156,683		308,834	
Total value of produce exported abroad, and to Chinese ports	88,578,083		88,421,647		83,774,273		97,587,988	
Of which the value exported abroad was	60,054,634		56,161,807		57,895,713		69,114,733	
Leaving as an approximation to the value of the home trade	28,523,449		32,259,840		25,878,560		28,473,255	

The term "Home Trade" here is applied only to Chinese Produce carried from port to port in foreign vessels for Chinese consumption.

A still greater amount of carrying trade is done by foreign vessels in distributing the foreign imports from Shanghai to Hankow, Kiu-kiang, Chinkiang, Tientsin, Che-foo, Newchwang, and Ningpo; and in bringing teas from Hankow, Kiu-kiang, and Ningpo, to Shanghai for exportation.

* For fuller information concerning Shanghai, see the special table below.

† The goods re-exported from these ports, with the exception perhaps of Amoy, are not sufficiently important in amount to be noticed. The value of foreign goods re-exported from Amoy, chiefly to the Formosan ports, was, in 1865, 884,639 taels; in 1866, 865,922 taels; in 1867, 684,555 taels; in 1868, 625,851 taels.

SPECIAL TABLE FOR SHANGHAE.

ANNUAL VALUE of the whole Trade in Foreign Goods, and in Chinese Produce, carried in Foreign Vessels,—1865 to 1868.

	1865.		1866.		1867.		1868.	
		Re-exported.		Re-exported.		Re-exported.		Re-exported.
FOREIGN GOODS.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Imported	38,387,777		47,022,995		46,570,534		50,207,443	
Re-exported to foreign countries, chiefly to Japan		3,171,812		2,254,479		2,339,461		2,086,796
Re-exported to Chinese ports, chiefly to Ningpo, the Northern and the Yang-tze ports.		24,991,620		33,295,050		31,803,137		35,665,767
		28,163,432		35,549,529		34,042,598		37,752,563
CHINESE PRODUCE								
Imported chiefly from Hankow, Kiu-kiang, and Ningpo	25,846,378		27,080,252		30,870,51		34,327,482	
Re-exported to foreign countries		15,435,795		14,255,79		16,916,854		19,266,253
Re-exported to Chinese ports		4,766,988		6,941,39		8,327,225		8,413,364
		20,202,783		21,197,190		25,244,076		27,669,607
Chinese produce of local origin exported to foreign countries	14,123,827		11,068,877		12,311,220		19,897,076	
Chinese produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports	7,702,554		6,448,592		7,282,954		7,813,440	
Gross value of the trade of the port	86,060,536		91,620,716		97,035,459		112,245,441	
Approximate net value—								
Foreign goods, less re-exported abroad and to Chinese ports	10,617,005		11,862,505		12,872,525		12,454,880	
Chinese goods received, less re-exported abroad and to Chinese ports	5,643,595		5,883,063		5,626,675		6,657,875	
Chinese goods of local origin exported abroad	14,123,827		11,068,877		12,311,220		19,897,076	
Ditto ditto to Chinese ports	7,702,554		6,448,592		7,282,954		7,813,440	
Total	38,086,981		35,263,036		38,093,101		46,823,271	

Abstract of Trade and Customs Revenue
Statistics from 1864 to 1868, published
by the Imperial Maritime Customs.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 2d.*]

CHINA. No. 12 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT SHANGHAE

RESPECTING THE

REVISION

OF THE

TREATY OF TIEN-TSIN.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
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Correspondence with the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai respecting the Revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

No. 1.

The Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Shanghai, February 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your communication of the 30th ultimo, covering despatch from his Excellency Sir Rutherford Alcock to Her Majesty's Consul at Amoy, Mr. W. H. Pedder, in which his Excellency asks for an expression of opinion from this Chamber upon certain very important points likely to be raised in the revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

I have, on the part of the Chamber, to reply, and in doing so, to remark that it is gratifying to find that the difficulties in the way of opening up this vast country are at last being fairly grappled with, and to assure his Excellency Sir Rutherford Alcock, through you, that if in any possible way, by practical suggestions, this Chamber can assist in the solution of the difficult problems at issue, it will readily do so, not in a spirit of seeking unlimited concession from the Chinese, but in the practical way which the opinion of its Members indicates as fair to the foreigner and the native.

His Excellency requests further information on the question of subsidiary ports, more especially alluding to the Amoy Memorial on the subject, and gives his views as to subsidiary ports on the Yang-tsze, and further states that the Chinese have it in contemplation to open the inland waters within the limits of any Customs district to foreign-owned vessels not propelled by steam.

This Chamber desires to express its decided opinion that the ports named by his Excellency on the coast and rivers should be opened to foreign trade, on the principle that commercial intercourse between foreigners and Chinese should be facilitated and encouraged by all available means. But if it be deemed necessary, as his Excellency intimates, that a Consular and Customs establishment be placed at every port so opened, then it rests with the foreign Governments, having a due regard to the expense to be incurred by such establishments, to select such ports as promise an adequate return in the way of increased trade, and the consequent benefit to the populations of the various countries interested. The Chamber conceives it to be its province to indicate the relative merits of these ports, and furnish the Minister with information which may assist him in forming a judgment.

Of the ports named by his Excellency, there can be no question about Wen-chow having the first claim to attention. Situated on a navigable river, having a depth of water of 17 feet within three miles of the town, and 12 feet at low water at the town, and an entrance easily navigable by steamers, this port is most advantageously situated to become a centre of foreign trade. The existing trade of the place is known to be large, and an active business in alum and other articles was carried on by foreigners some years ago, which was only stopped by the Customs regulations.

Its proximity to several important tea districts would render Wen-chow the most convenient shipping port for a large quantity of tea which now finds its way by indirect and lengthened lines of transit to Foo-chow and Ning-po. Native cottons are imported largely into Wen-chow, and the traffic in various other native products is very extensive; and a considerable trade in foreign imported goods would doubtless spring up if the port were opened to foreign vessels. And the trade in fruit, which only awaits the aid of rapid communication by steam to become at certain seasons an important item in the business of the place, ought not to be overlooked—considering the new sources of wealth it would open up for the cultivators, and the benefits it would confer on the population of Keang-soo.

The port of Tai-chow is in the opinion of this Chamber of less importance, and as it is distant from Wen-chow only sixty miles, it is improbable that both places could flourish as ports of entry, and therefore, if selections are to be made, the Chamber would urge the claims of Wen-chow in preference to Tai-chow.

Ta-ku-shan, the Chamber is informed, is a convenient channel for the trade of Corea and part of Manchuria, and if open to foreign vessels would facilitate the transport to various inland markets of merchandize, which at present has to follow circuitous routes, viâ Newchwang. It possesses, moreover, an independent trade of its own in pulse and other products, second only to that of Newchwang, and both cotton and woollen fabrics of foreign manufacture are imported, as well as nankeen cloths, opium, and metals. From the geographical position of this port, however, his Excellency has probably more reliable materials for arriving at a conclusion in regard to it than any with which the Chamber can furnish him.

The other places named by his Excellency, viz., Kipchi, Shintung, and Pak-hoi may be considered beyond the sphere of this Chamber's knowledge or interest, and are therefore left to be reported on by the residents of the southern ports of China.

It has likewise been suggested that a port on the south of the Shan-tung Promontory would be a useful addition. The harbour of Wei-hwei is reported to be a better one than that of Che-foo, and would be a great advantage as a port of refuge, besides being conveniently situated as regards various lines of commerce into the interior of Shan-tung province.

But while the Chamber is thus sparing in recommending the opening of new ports on the sea-board, it cannot feel the same hesitation in urging very extensive additions to the foreign trading stations on the river Yang-tsze, and the inner waters generally. The economical or prudential considerations which are assumed to have great weight as regards the coast ports, do not apply in anything like the same degree to inland places, because efficient supervision by Customs and Consular Establishments is there attainable at a minimum of cost. The foreign vessel that enters the inner waters becomes a hostage, so to speak, for her proper observance of Government regulations; and the facility of locomotion on rivers or canals, would place extensive districts completely under the control of a very small staff of Government officers.

The Chamber, therefore, learns with great satisfaction that it is in contemplation to establish certain subsidiary ports on the Yang-tsze as landing-places for cargo and passengers. The city of Ngan-king, though not known to be a centre of great trade, is the only town on the left bank of the river between Kiu-kiang and Chin-kiang, and being moreover the capital of a province, it will doubtless be a convenience to the Imperial Government to make it a place of call for steamers.

Wu-hu, an outlet for the Tae-ping tea districts, and connected by good water communication with a large and important tract of country, needs nothing more to recommend it as one of the proposed experimental ports on the river.

Ta-tung is known to be a feeder for a large extent of country on the south bank of the river, and it also enjoys the peculiar advantage of commanding a navigable river or canal on the north bank. It is thus well situated for a landing-place, whence foreign goods would be forwarded into the interior. There are also some silk districts in the neighbourhood.

The Chamber would propose in addition that some port be opened on the Yang-tsze between Shanghai and Chin-kiang, to facilitate trade with that populous region lying between that part of the river and the sea. Kiang-yin would appear to recommend itself from its position at the junction of several water-courses.

The proposed opening of Yo-chow (on the Tung-ting Lake) also calls for the unqualified approval of the Chamber, as if it possessed no other merit, it is at least a step in advance of our present outposts, and one stage nearer to the only ultimate solution of all these questions, the opening of the whole country. A depôt 130 miles higher up the Yang-tsze than the highest point open at present is an object of no slight importance. It is 130 miles nearer to the great emporia of Szechuen, the producing districts of Hunan, and the consuming marts of Siang-tan, Chang-sha, and others lying to the south of the Tung-ting Lake. But it should be kept in view that Yo-chow has no pretensions to be itself a centre of trade.

Intimately connected with the extension of ports of entry on the Great River is that of the right of navigation of the inner waters generally. After the discussion on this subject that took place in 1866 between this Chamber and Sir R. Alcock, it is unnecessary to say that the Chamber and the whole community of Shanghai and other places look forward to the full permission of the Chinese Government being granted to foreigners to travel freely "for their pleasure or for purposes of trade to all parts of the interior," as a right

which has been withheld from temporary causes; but the Chamber is deeply disappointed to find that this freedom of locomotion is only proposed to be granted under certain almost prohibitory restrictions. The limitation of the privilege to boats "not propelled by steam" the Chamber conceives to be fatal to the development of trade, which is the primary object of the revision of the Treaty. In an age when the only question ought to be between steamers and railways, it seems almost humiliating that foreigners, accustomed to the speed and luxury of travelling in other countries, should still in China be suing for permission to transport their goods by the time-consuming process of boats worked by manual power. The Chamber is at a loss to conceive why the Chinese Government, having the demonstration before its eyes of the advantage of steam communication on the coast and the River Yang-tsze, should still wish to deny to trading population the facilities which every other commercial nation enjoys. It is too evident to require argument, that every other concession bearing on the privilege of travelling, residence, and trade in the interior of China will be almost neutralized if foreigners are debarred from employing steamboats as their means of conveyance. And it seems also to the Chamber to admit of no doubt that by the introduction of steamers the Chinese Government would possess greater security against infractions of its regulations, breaches of the peace, and all those evils which are presumably objects of apprehension than it would if steam were forbidden. The owner of a costly steamboat would be far less likely to expose himself to the risk of delay or of penalties of any kind which would follow the neglect of established rules than the petty adventurer whose capital was invested in a common sailing-boat. Steamers on the coast have done much to decrease piracy, and steamers on the Yang-tsze have almost annihilated it. If the Chinese Government were not aware of these things, there might be hope of its views being modified by reasons and facts. But the prohibition of the use of modern scientific appliances to the machinery of transport and locomotion in China, is but too suspicious a symptom of the old exclusive policy of this Government. The Chamber is convinced that this is one of the most important points to be overcome in the revised Treaty; that the removal of the proposed restriction will be productive of incalculable advantage to foreigners, and great prosperity to the native traders and people generally; and that his Excellency should use his most strenuous endeavours, while such favorable opportunity offers, to secure for his countrymen the right of using steam both in travelling and in the transport of merchandize.

If the Chamber limited itself to a mere reply to his Excellency's communication, it might stop here; but on such an important occasion as the present, when the conditions of foreign trade and general relations with China are on the eve of being fixed for ten years to come, the Chamber craves permission to express its convictions on points not noticed in his Excellency's despatch, but which materially affect the interests of all foreign nations.

The Chamber desires once more to place on record its opinion that the chief places of trade in China, and the mineral resources of the country, should be thrown open to the capital and mechanical skill of Europe and America; and while in the present communication the Chamber has accommodated itself to the terms of Sir Rutherford Alcock's despatch, in particularizing certain ports and places, this is not to be held as a surrender of its claim for complete freedom of commercial intercourse with every part of China. The Chamber is persuaded that a comprehensive measure framed for that end, and guarded by precautionary regulations, would neither entail damage nor inconvenience to the Chinese authorities, nor would it be productive of undue expense to foreign Governments; but on the contrary, would be the surest guarantee against lawlessness, the best antidote to insurrection, and a boon to very large numbers of the Chinese population. A comparison between the appearance of the river Yang-tsze, and the condition of the cities on its banks, as they were seen eight years ago, before the admission of foreign steamers, with the present aspect of affairs, is as conclusive evidence as can well be, that the opening of the country to foreigners is an unmixed benefit to the Chinese.

The Chamber, therefore, makes no further apology for taking up the list of inland marts where Sir Rutherford Alcock leaves off; and they would first point attention to the vast productive and commercial region of Szechuen, from which foreign trade is almost entirely cut off. In the order of importance among the trading towns on the banks of the Upper Yang-tsze, Chun-king stands pre-eminent as an enormous distributing centre. Situated in the heart of a rich country, at a distance of 720 miles from our present most inland station, Hankow, and commanding the commercial channels from Kwei-chow, Yunnan, and Kansuh, it circulates in every direction foreign goods of various kinds, silver, gold, copper, tin, lead, coal, wax, silk, and hemp, and is a purely commercial town, containing half a million of people. The opening of such a mart as that to foreign trade would, in the opinion of the Chamber, create a demand for English manufactures

which would amply repay any trouble, risk, or expense entailed on the Government in making it a port of trade.

The Chamber would also suggest a connection with the opening of Chung-king and Sze-chuen that the frontier town of Bathang would be eminently desirable as a station or town that should be free to foreigners to reside in, having in view its ultimately being on the highway to India, from which it is distant only ten days journey, and further considering the importance Her Majesty's Government have lately attached to the opening of a route to Central Asia in that direction.

Following the downward course of the Great River, and passing over the minor commercial stations of Wan(hien), Kwei-chow, and several others, about which little definite information is to be obtained, the next important place is I-chang, 360 miles from Hankow. The present commercial importance of I-chang is inconsiderable, the trading centre being Sha-sz 76 miles lower down the river; yet, as the highest point on the Great River to which the large steamers now running on the river could reach, it should be opened provisionally to foreign trade, that is until some more convenient station be found. All authorities seem to agree as to the navigability of the river up to I-chang; and all equally agree on the impossibility of any steamer, unless built specially for the work, ascending the rapids between I-chang and Chun-king; but the practicability of overcoming these obstacles by mechanical contrivances must necessarily be left for future investigation.

Leaving the Yang-tsze, there is another very important water route which the Chamber would point out leading through the rich Province of Hunan and to districts productive of tea, coal, iron, timber, corn, and oil. The Seng River, running through the Tung-ting Lake, is said to be navigable by steamers for 300 miles from Yoh-chow. The town of Siang-tan on this river is well known as a vast emporium of trade, and a distributing centre for foreign manufactured goods. This town is one which the Chamber would urge should be selected as a *dépôt* for foreign trade, probationally, for the Chamber is informed that the irregular barrier levies which are so prohibitory to foreign trade in other districts do not prevail there, and therefore the advantages to be derived from the opening of the port would be almost confined to the substitution of steam conveyance for that of native boats.

The next important line of water communication is the River Han, which forms the main channel of a large portion of Honan, Shensi, and Hupeh. The emporia of Fan-ching, adjoining the city of Seang-yang, nearly 400 miles above Hankow, and Laou-hokow, 50 miles higher up, are described by travellers as very extensive, and the boat traffic generally on the Han is very great. It is a remarkable fact that few foreign goods find their way from Hankow up the River Han; but the Chamber is not in a position to furnish an explanation of this circumstance. With regard to the commercial capacities of this route, as well as the Upper Yang-tsze and the River Seng, the Chamber feels that more accurate information is needed, before any final decision is taken. For this purpose it would seem that a commission to examine and report on these subjects would render a very valuable service.

The navigation by small steamers of the channels of the Poyang Lake has been so fully treated of in the Memorial addressed to his Excellency by the merchants at Kiu-kiang, dated 2nd July, 1867, that this Chamber has only to add its own opinion to that of the community of Kiu-kiang in favour of the opening of the routes to Wochin, Shuy Hung, and other places where steam can be effectively introduced. The port of Kiu-kiang would be a convenient point from which supervision over the movements of foreign vessels in the Poyang Lake could be maintained.

Which of the ports and places thus enumerated would be classed among the new ports of entry or registry, and which would be considered as subsidiary to some larger centre, would be decided according to the exigencies of each case. The Chamber is of opinion that Consular and Customs establishments would only be required at a few of the principal places on the river; that the inner waters, more strictly so called, might be traversed by foreign steamers taking their departure from a Consular port, where they might be called on to lodge heavy securities for their due observance of such regulations as it might be found necessary to establish; and they might be required to repair to their port of registry at stated intervals. As at the outset the new ports would be inconsiderable in importance, it would not be necessary to erect permanent establishments, until experience showed where they would be wanted. The experience of former occasions would prevent both Governments and individual merchants from sinking money in establishments until the expenditure was warranted by the growing trade of the particular port.

The general question of "inland navigation" by small steamers was fully discussed

in the Memorial which this Chamber addressed to his Excellency in October 1867, and of which an extract is appended.

The Chamber would only now add that the routes and districts within which it would be desirable to grant the permission should be determined from time to time according to information acquired. At present the Grand Canal between Hang-chow and Chinkiang, and the whole water system of which it is a part should be opened to steamers of proper construction, and under proper restrictions. The Grand Canal also to the north of Chinkiang as far at least as Tsin-kiang-pu should be included in the concession now.

The right of residence in the interior has at various times been argued, and on this subject also an extract from the Memorial of October 1867 is appended. The Chamber is more than ever convinced of the wisdom of this demand, and feels that it cannot impress too strongly on his Excellency the necessity of urging this point on the Peking Government. Russian merchants live in the interior on friendly terms with the Chinese, and under the protection of their own Government; and if on no better plea than that of the favoured-nation clause, the privilege accorded to Russian subjects may surely be demanded on behalf of other nationals. There would be no chance of large settlements being founded in any inland town; foreign merchants cannot compete with natives of China on their own ground, and therefore large foreign communities could not be supported in the interior. There is nothing therefore for the Chinese Government to fear.

Since the suppression of the rebellion, the Chinese authorities cannot but have seen the mistake in their ideas as to the conduct of foreigners resident in this country, and the representatives of foreigners, also, must be aware that the old supposition of foreigners contemning native authority, and of "rowdies" wandering over the country, are purely imaginary. Foreigners are as a fact trading in the most peaceful way, and even under exasperating circumstances subjecting themselves to law and order in a remarkable manner.

It would be well that this example of the past few years should be thoroughly impressed on the Chinese. The desire of trade is alone sufficient to make all foreigners in every rank of life respect the customs of the Chinese, and the authority of their rulers wherever they come in contact; and it may be laid down as an axiom, that the same desire would make it a more prevailing necessity were the country freely opened.

The question of the general development of the vast mineral resources of the Empire may be deemed too comprehensive to be discussed in the present communication; but as cheap fuel is an essential element in the success of steam-boat enterprise, which it is the desire of the Chamber to promote, the free opening of the various coal mines to foreign competition seems to be a legitimate object for the Chamber's solicitation. It is true that in many parts of China coal and other mines are already worked; but it is under the enormous disadvantages of want of skill, of cheap transport, and of the mechanical appliances which can only be provided by foreigners, and by which means alone native coal can be made to compete with the product of other countries, which has to be carried 16,000 miles to the China markets. The Chamber need not dilate on the stimulus to native industry, and the material benefits which the Chinese people would derive from the free permission to foreigners to hold land, and do all that is necessary to utilize the vast wealth which is latent in the coal-fields. In pointing out the heavy burden which expensive fuel at present lays on steam-boat enterprise, the Chamber have furnished all the argument that is necessary to support its request that foreign capital and skill should be permitted to be employed in the coal fields in China.

But perhaps the most important question of all in connection with the revision of the Treaties, is that of "Transit Dues," and while referring to the remarks of the Chamber in the Memorial of 1867 on the subject, it may be well to reiterate that the principle on which this should be decided is, that the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or whatever charge may be agreed upon, to be charged in the shape of transit dues, shall not be paid into the Imperial Treasury, but shall be handed over to, or collected by the provincial authorities at the place of shipment or discharge. These latter are held responsible for the due administration of their governments, and must raise a revenue. And in cases where goods pass through more than one province, a method of dividing the amount of duty between the different authorities represented might be devised.

In the few districts where transit-passes are admitted to cover foreign-owned goods, the foreigner has to accompany them by himself or by his agents, and furnish evidence of ownership. This is attended with inconvenience, and it would be more in accordance with the spirit and intention of the Treaty to consider all goods of foreign import, by whomsoever owned, as covered by the transit-pass. This privilege is especially stipulated for in Article X of the Treaty of Nanking, which was confirmed by that of Tien-tsin; and though the Chamber is not sanguine enough to hope that the right thereby acquired

can be easily put in practice, the broad assertion of the principle would be of use in providing against disputes.

In conclusion, the Chamber would beg his Excellency to explain clearly to the Chinese Government the objects the communities have in view in seeking free access to the interior. It seems that the Government labours under considerable misapprehension on this point. It is surely unnecessary to repeat that a body of foreign merchants are not likely to be animated by feelings of hostility or aggression towards the people or Government of China. On the contrary, their great desire is to see the Government strengthened to maintain order, and the people enriched that they may become good customers. That, in plain terms, is the mercantile view of the question. Foreigners are convinced that the difficulty of transport, and the irregular or excessive inland taxation on merchandize prevent foreign goods from penetrating far into the interior, depriving the Chinese people of the opportunity of purchasing articles of use at a cheap rate, and excluding foreign manufacturers from a vast and legitimate field of enterprise. Thus both people suffer by the existing restrictions, and both would therefore gain by the remedial manners which this Chamber has now once more taken upon itself to advocate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. PORTER.

Extracts from Memorial of 1867.

“Closely allied to the privilege of residence in the interior in its bearing upon the progress of trade, and the protection of traffic from arbitrary imposts, is the right to convey specie and merchandize in steam cargo-boats up and down the navigable creeks connecting the country districts with the shipping port: on which subject the Chamber of Commerce addressed your Excellency at length on the 25th July, 1866.

“It is desirable to point out that two very distinct questions appear to have been confounded with regard to this matter. That of navigating the whole of the rivers in China with vessels bearing foreign flags has become mixed up with the minor one of a merchant being permitted to send into the interior small steam cargo-boats for the purpose of transmitting his treasure and goods or bringing down such produce as he may have purchased. The former question, viz., the right to navigate all the rivers and waters of China in large steamers, is one which your memorialists are not prepared to open; but the latter, which applies only to the employment of small steam cargo-boats, is of considerable importance.

“The acquisition of the right has been advocated for the reasons that it is in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty, that it will substitute for an antiquated system of carriage,—at once expensive and hazardous,—a speedy, cheap, and safe mode of lighterage, and will afford a safeguard against illegal levies upon merchandize *in transitu*. The Chinese have opposed the innovation, on the grounds that classes of the population would be thrown out of employment, and that control over the foreign crews would be impracticable.

“Your Memorialists need not expose the fallacy of the economical grounds on which opposition to the proposal is offered by the Chinese Government, or enter at length upon a consideration of the manifest benefits which would accrue no less to the interests of trade than to the amelioration of the condition of the Chinese people, from free communication between the coast and the interior; but with regard to the exercise of control over the proceedings of the boats and their crews, your Memorialists consider that all that would be necessary to secure the Chinese Government from evasion of their fiscal regulations, and the native population against lawless outrages, would be to apply to foreign craft the same system which is already in force with regard to native boats, viz., that the steamers should be registered at the Custom-house of the Treaty ports to which their owners may belong, and bonds taken from responsible sureties that the vessels shall be confined to legitimate traffic, and their crews be held promptly amenable to the jurisdiction of the Consular authorities. It may also be deemed desirable to make stipulations as to the capacity and build of the steamers which it will be lawful to employ.”

“With respect to residence in the interior, your Memorialists would observe that it seems almost beyond a question, that unless this privilege be accorded, the force and bearing of the Treaty applicable to the freedom of trade from the arbitrary restrictions placed upon it, will be wholly lost. So long as we are confined to the Treaty ports, it is within the power of the Chinese officials to tax our trade to any extent they please; and

experience has fully demonstrated that they will not hesitate to make use of this power.

"The right of renting land and houses in the interior, would pave the way to the introduction of railways, and the development of the mineral resources of China, and your Memorialists need scarcely refer to the important advantages to be derived by all interested in steam navigation, from the efficient working of the coal-fields of China. The recent discovery of coal mines near Chin-kiang in a particularly favourable position, gives a practical bearing to the question.

"Should Her Majesty's Government not be of opinion that the Treaty will admit of residence in the interior, it is the earnest hope of your Memorialists that they may consider it advisable to negotiate for this privilege; or at all events for the right of residence within a fixed radius, of perhaps 200 miles from some or all of the Treaty ports.

"Your Memorialists suggest that licences from the Consuls at the various Treaty ports should be issued, and regulations framed, under which the foreigner in the interior would be liable not only for the payment of all personal taxation to which he, in common with his Chinese neighbours, may lawfully be subject, but also for his appearance at the licensing port on the summons of his Consul, to answer any charge which may be preferred against him.

"Your Memorialists are not of opinion that the privilege would be at first numerously availed of, the necessary agents skilled in the language not being at hand; but they are impressed with the conviction that the residence of qualified foreign agents at the principal internal marts is the only means of deriving accurate information regarding the sources of supply and the wants of consumption, without which no trade can be conducted on a sound basis.

"Your Memorialists consider the presence of these agents in the interior, and the fixed commutation of local taxation known as the transit dues, to be the proper safeguards against the exhaustive and illegal levies, which are sapping the foundations of profitable traffic, and promising to render nugatory all the advantages offered by the Treaty."

"In respect to transit dues your Memorialists are strongly in favour of the system which provides for a commutation of inland dues upon imports and exports; and upon careful consideration, are of opinion that a great advantage would be gained by making the transit duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as leviable by Treaty, payable at the market in which export produce is bought or imports sold, in place of paying it, as at present, into the foreign Customs. It is naturally a source of vexation to the local authorities that dues which, according to custom, formerly came into their own coffers, should be now paid to the provincial Exchequer subject to Imperial control; and it is also to be remembered, that to a certain extent, this is an injustice to those officials who look to taxes upon the produce bought or goods sold in their districts as the means of raising their revenue. Under such circumstances a strong prejudice is naturally felt by them against foreign trade; and they are under temptation to impose taxes on produce bought by foreigners; while in consequence of no other duty being levied on it in the district they are able to do so without fear of popular discontent.

"If, however, the transit dues were paid, as they should be, to the local officials at the place where the transactions occur, the Mandarins would welcome the foreigner and be inclined to foster his trade, seeing that it would contribute handsomely to their local revenue. All that would be necessary for carrying out this arrangement in the case of exports would be that the foreign merchant should be required to lodge at the Custom-house of the port of export a receipt from the Chinese official in the district where the goods had been bought for the amount of transit dues payable by Treaty. In the case of imports a receipt could be handed to the agent in charge of the goods by the revenue authorities at the place where the cargo may be sold, and should be returned to the Customs office within a reasonable period."

Chinese Names of Towns and Places mentioned in accompanying Letter.

Wen-chow.	Wan (hien).
Tai-chow.	Kwei-chow.
Ta-ku-san.	I-chang.
Ngan-king.	Sha-sze.
Wu-hu.	Siang-tan.
Ta-tung.	Fan-ching.
Kiang-yin.	Seang-yang.
Yo-chow.	Laou-ho-kow.
Siang-tan.	Woo-ching.
Chang-sha.	Shuy-hung.
Tung-ting Lake.	Tsin-kiang-pu.
Chun-king.	

No. 2.

Sir R. Alcock to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, March 23, 1869.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 1st and 16th ultimo, covering copies of the several communications received from the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai, and from individual members of the mercantile community, giving their views on the most desirable means of extending trade and facilitating operations in the interior; I have been glad to receive such full and unreserved statements from those best able to give practical information.

The direct transmission of these communications, giving at one view the opinions of the mercantile body in China on questions of such importance to trade and in their bearing on our future relations with the country, cannot fail to secure, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, prompt attention, as well as careful consideration in connection with my reports and various other data affecting the revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

As regards the answers received on the question of subsidiary ports, I am led to conclude that the object in view may be secured; the Custom-house of each Treaty port having jurisdiction within certain limits which are co-terminous, and thus including all minor or non-Treaty ports on the whole coast. The objection of the Chinese Government to steamers only applies to the inland waters not hitherto open to foreign vessels.

But as regards inland residence, the objections appear to be insuperable in connection with extra-territorial rights. The Tsungli Yamên state they are willing that Chinese and foreigners should be placed on an equal footing, but not that the latter should have exceptional advantages and privileges. They contend that, if the foreign merchant claims the one, he must forego the other in common justice to their own people. Thus, both as regards inland steam navigation and residence, the first may be had whenever the Chinese traders themselves employ steamers on those waters, and the latter whenever foreign Powers are willing to place their subjects under the laws of the country and amenable to the territorial authority, as Chinese themselves would be in any Western State. Of course, the objections to any such arrangement while the Chinese laws and their administration continue what they now are, must be manifold. But with these irreconcilable differences there does not seem any chance of agreement.

It has been argued in the public press both at home and in China, that this right of inland residence is already secured to British subjects by the Russian Treaty in connection with the favoured-nation clause, just as British missionaries are allowed to dwell in the interior by virtue of a right derived only from the French Treaty.

But there is error in both these assumptions. The Russian Treaty does not give any general right of residence in the interior but only at certain places—on the Mongolian border, as at Urga and at Kashgar, Ili, and Tabagatai, in Western Tartary north of Turkestan, territories which, *de facto*, have long ceased to be under Chinese rule. Russian traders do in effect reside in small number at Tsêng-yang, and possibly some few nearer the tea districts; but it is permissive and not claimed as a right; and I believe they are simply left alone because they give no trouble, speak and live and dress like Chinese, and have no Canton boys or compradores to get into quarrels with the people, and then beard the authorities as being under foreign protection and not amenable to their jurisdiction. I believe the subjects of any other foreign Power might do the same as these few Russian traders, if they took the same course and could live in the

same way, without giving rise to trouble or questions of foreign jurisdiction and authority—so far as any interference or molestation from Chinese officials is concerned.

Any rights of inland residence of missionaries that can properly be claimed by virtue of the French Treaty are by no means so clear and unquestionable as has been assumed; and with reference to British missionaries, the whole subject is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, with whom it rests to determine whether they will claim such privileges and accept the responsibilities their enjoyment entails, if they are to be placed under British protection.

In the meantime, I consider Her Majesty's Consuls entitled to exercise a discretionary power in refusing to grant any passport or authority for residence beyond the limits of the ports.

Apart from inland residence and its difficulties, there is, in the representations received from all ports, a very great unanimity of opinion as to the importance of railroads and telegraphs in addition to inland steam navigation and the working of mines, as all more or less essential to freer access to great inland centres of production and consumption, and more especially for the reform of abuses in the levy of transit dues at the inland barriers.

All I can at present say on this subject is, that I entirely agree with the writers as to the great importance of each and all of these appliances for the free development of foreign trade in China. But I am also bound to add that no efforts hitherto made by me or by my colleagues in Peking, and they have been both earnest and continuous, have prevailed with the Chinese Government, or succeeded in removing their objections to initiatory steps in any of these directions; if I except coal mines, some of which they are willing to work themselves with foreign machinery and superintendence.

It remains to be seen whether the recent assurances made by Her Majesty's Government, that there was, so far as great Britain was concerned, neither a desire nor intention to apply unfriendly pressure to China to induce her Government to advance more rapidly in her intercourse with foreign nations than was consistent with safety and with due and reasonable regard for the feelings of her subjects, will have any effect in removing this Government's disinclination to listen to any propositions for making a beginning on railroads and telegraphs.

The signature at Washington of a formal engagement to forbear from any pressure for these objects, and the assurances of Great Britain in the same sense, if other Powers should follow a similar course, may possibly remove some difficulties. By relieving the Government of Peking of all anxiety as to the desire of foreign Powers either to interfere or dictate what shall or shall not be done for the introduction of great innovations, or to press them in the path of progress beyond what they deem either safe or practicable, they may be induced to listen more willingly to arguments in favour of a beginning. It is probably in this hope that Mr. Burlingame has laboured to obtain these declarations of forbearance and a desire to avoid dictation or pressure on the part of foreign powers.

But, as regards the desires of the merchants and the progress of any negotiations here for the realization of their wishes, it will be very plain to them that, when Her Majesty's Government has officially informed the Chinese Envoy that they fully admitted the Chinese Government were entitled to count upon the forbearance of foreign nations, and that no unfriendly pressure should be brought to bear by Great Britain to induce them to advance more rapidly than might be held safe and consistent with a due regard to popular feelings, it does not rest with Her Majesty's Representative to adopt any course opposed to such declaration.

You are at liberty to communicate this despatch to the Chamber of Commerce.

Your, &c.

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

CHINA. No. 12 (1869).

Correspondence with the Chamber of
Commerce at Shanghai respecting the
Revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

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REPORTS

OF

JOURNEYS IN CHINA AND JAPAN

PERFORMED BY

MR. ALABASTER, MR. OXENHAM, MR. MARKHAM,
AND DR. WILLIS,

OF

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULAR SERVICE IN THOSE
COUNTRIES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

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Reports of Journeys in China and Japan performed by
Mr. Alabaster, Mr. Oxenham, Mr. Markham, and
Dr. Willis, of Her Majesty's Consular Service in those
Countries.

No. 1.

Sir R. Alcock to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 2, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Peking, October 7, 1868.

I HAVE received a very interesting Report, copy of which I inclose, from Mr. Alabaster, who took the overland route from Che-foo, where he had been officiating as Consul, to Chin-kiang, on his way south to Swatow, where I have placed him in charge. Part of this route lay along the line of the Grand Canal from the Yellow River to the Yang-tse; and in a comparatively hurried transit he saw quite enough of commercial wealth and traffic in a succession of large cities lying on the banks of the canal, to show the importance of such a field of operations to our merchants.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Memorandum by Mr. Alabaster of a Trip Overland from Che-foo to Chin-kiang-foo.

PART I.

BEING desirous to obtain some reliable information relative to a report current at Che-foo, that 10,000 Chinamen are now working some gold mines distant some eighty miles from that port in defiance of the authorities, to ascertain the practicability of the line of railroad from Che-foo, agitated so continually during the past year, and to find out the actual amount of damage done by the rebels in their last raid, and the probability of another irruption, I determined, notwithstanding the season of the year and the hardship it would probably entail, to proceed to my new post overland.

I left Che-foo on the 18th July, accompanied by one Chinese servant, in carts lent me by the Taoutae, it being impossible to hire any at Che-foo, except at a rate so extortionate that I could not submit to it without establishing a most inconvenient precedent for future travellers.

Starting in a westerly direction, I took the new road made by the Taoutae at the expense of the people, to Huang-hsien, a district city distant some (190 li) sixty-three miles from Yentai. This is one of the two towns in which the trade of Che-foo chiefly depends, and for a northern town is of some considerable extent.

Previous to the formation of the Taoutae's road,—which scarcely deserves the name, being merely a rough cutting over, not through, the hills,—this was the nearest point to the sea to which carts could come, and its importance is due to this. Even now many carts stop here; goods being taken or brought from Yentai on muleback: it has no manufactures of importance, although some quantity of bean cakes is made here, but a number of fine inns and honges.

I called on the magistrate here, and with his assistance, readily and cheerfully given, hired carts to take me to the Yellow River, after some difficulty,—the route being declared impracticable from the rains, and in parts dangerous from local banditti: 120 li from Huang-hsien I branched off from the route to visit the Pingtou gold mines, sending my carts on to Haichow-foo, and proceeding myself over the hills on muleback.

The mines are about forty miles from the sea, but were, on my arrival, full of water. The gold is found in a vein of cellular quartz, running through a range of hills which appeared to me to be a continuation of that in which the gold is found near Yentai.

The mine was worked with considerable success by Chinese some years back; but a dispute arising as to the amount the proprietor should contribute to the local authorities' privy purse, the works were stopped from Peking. The ravines round are still occasionally washed for gold, but it does not appear to be found in profitable quantities. I found great anxiety on the part of the people in the village near that the mine should be opened, and a source of profitable employment thereby developed for them; but I found no bodies of men actively engaged in the search for gold as reported at Che-foo, the story having apparently taken its source in a threat made by a body of some dozen Cantonese who endeavoured to open the mine a short time back, and who, being prevented by the mandarins, declared they would return with some 10,000 men, and do so perforce. The vein, as far as it has been traced, extends for some 4 li ($1\frac{1}{3}$ miles), and lies some 30 feet below the surface, lead and silver, as at Che-foo, being found in a line parallel to it, distant some 6 or 7 miles. I rejoined my carts at Saichow-foo (a prefecture), the prettiest and cleanest little city I have seen, but apparently of no great commercial importance: soap, stone ornaments, and whitewash being the chief productions. From this I proceeded to the Ta-hsin-ho, 120 li (40 miles), a river some 9 feet deep, and 500 yards across, the scene of several sanguinary engagements during the rebel campaign, the mandarins having attempted to hold the line of the river and starve the rebels on the promontory: some miles further I came to the Weiho, a broad and navigable river, which could easily be made an insurmountable barrier to rebel raids on the promontory if a hundredth part of the money expended during the past year on useless fortifications were devoted to the maintenance of a couple of small steamers upon it; indeed, if they used the steamers in time of peace as ferry-boats, it could be alone an infinitesimal expense.

One hundred and thirty li (forty-three miles) from the Hsin-ho, I reached Wei-hsien, the *dépôt* of the Shangtung trade, and the centre from which the South Tsinun-foo and Peking are reached. During my tenure of office at Che-foo I heard nothing but Wei-hsien whenever any mercantile matter was discussed; it was to this that a railway was wanted, it was from this that the whole interior could be reached, and it was here that everything was to be got, and it appeared to me to deserve the attention bestowed upon it.

Besides the original city wall, those of the suburbs are now inclosed with fortifications; the numerous forges (Wei-hsien is noted for its blacksmiths) were busily employed while I was there in the manufacture of gingalls and guns. Entirely a trading town, there are few residences of gentry, but numberless tobacco honges, inns, shops, and cart *dépôts*. From here goods can be sent in any direction—north, south, east, or west; and it may be considered the centre of the cart trade of Shang-tung. I found the people here more inclined to rudeness than I had done elsewhere, and calling on the District Magistrate, I was denied an interview on the fictitious plea that he was not at home; but this will not probably occur again, as the Taoutae, to whom, through Mr. Markham, I represented the affair, has rebuked the Magistrate, I understand severely, and the rudeness of the people will probably wear off as foreigners visit the town more frequently.

My route, which had hitherto been nearly due west, here turned off south. A few miles from Wei-hsien I found numerous coal-pits in active operation, Wei-hsien using coal entirely for fuel. The shafts are sunk in the plain to a depth of 100 or 120 feet, and galleries of considerable extent run out from them, new shafts being sunk when ventilation appears desirable,—the coal underlying the whole country.

The coal is unfortunately of very inferior quality, of loose texture, and giving very little heat, so little that it would be impossible to use it for steam purposes, the forges at Wei-hsien being supplied from Shanso; but there is very reason to think that beneath the surface vein, which alone is worked, a more valuable quality might be discovered. Nor would deeper boring affect the Fungshui, or excite the hostility of the Mandarins. The mines are worked and the produce is in demand; the miners, too, I found most friendly disposed, and one who had visited Shanghai was most anxious to learn at what cost he could procure a foreign pumping apparatus, apparently seeing no difficulty in putting it in use if procurable within the limits of his purse. Until, however, a good road be made from Yentai to Wei-hsien, the development of the mines, even if a better quality of coal exist, would profit little. The difficulties of the road between the mines and Wei-hsien, ten miles only, raise the cost from 500 cash the tan of 150 catties (200 lbs. roughly) at the pit's mouth to twice that amount in the town, and the conveyance to Yentai would raise the price from 5 dollars per ton to 12 dollars, and over.

Nor is the line of road an easy one; it is true that no high ranges would need to be

crossed, but the line would necessitate so many cuttings of 100 or 200 feet through the hills, solid rock, and so many bridges over the sand flats, at seasons converted into broad and rapid torrents lying between them, that it is doubtful whether the cost would meet with a commensurate return. There are a number of villages on the road, some of considerable extent, and a few large towns, but there is no traffic or population such as you see in the southern provinces.

From the mines my course took me nearly due south, over a number of rocky ranges of no considerable height and interlying plains, and over many broad but shallow rivers, through the miserable district city of Anchin to the sub-prefecture of Chin-chow, 320 li (106 miles). All along the way I had seen traces of the rebel raid: none of the walled villages, it is true, had been captured, nor had any great damage apparently been done in the places visited by them on the promontory, but from Wei-hsien new houses or ruins of old ones became more common, and as I advanced the injury that had been done by the various raids became still more manifest.

The Nienfei, however, do not appear to have been nearly such a scourge as the Taepings: nearly every mark of serious devastation was attributed to the Taepings when they made their celebrated attempt on Peking,—temples, cities, villages, all appear to have been utterly destroyed wherever they passed; and notwithstanding over twelve years have passed since then, the country has scarcely yet recovered. The Nienfei appear to have been merely a large band of starving people, wandering over the country, eating it up as they went, but unless molested doing little damage, and never seeking to establish themselves as a political power; indeed, in many places the feeling against the Mandarin troops was as bitter as against the so-called rebels, and the damage done by them as great.

At Chin-chow, a large town but of no very great commercial importance, I was visited by the Sub-Prefect, a Mandarin named Chin, who showed me extraordinary civility, sending me a dinner, and offering me an escort if I thought it desirable: but I noticed a great change in the people; hitherto they had been a fine, well-dressed, independent set, ready to be civil to me if I was civil to them, but evidently thinking themselves quite equal if not superior to the foreigner: from Chin-chow they seemed poor and fearful, inclined alternately to insolence or servility.

From Chin-chow my course took me to the Yiho, a broad navigable river, and the important commercial town Li-hia-chuang (230 li), situated on the magnificent Imperial road by which the first Emperors of this dynasty secured their communication, and the decay of which has contributed greatly to the decadence of the power of the present Government; equal originally to the roads our Government has constructed in India, it is now only in places passable, and the traffic is compelled to seek bye-roads for its continuance. Here I found the first inns I had met with in my road, and the town, though said to be daily falling off, still showed signs of bustling trade.

Seventy li (23 miles) further took me to the district city of Tanchêng Hsien, a poverty-stricken town, much injured by rebel raids and Imperialist armies, and the last place of any importance at which I found European goods brought via Che-foo and Wei-hsien.

Up to this point I had seen neither beggar, soldier, nor Custom-house, and notwithstanding the badness of the roads it was more profitable for the merchant to bring European goods by cart, or pack-mule, or wheelbarrow, than to bring them 746 li from Chin-kiang with all the advantages of water carriage to within about 160 li. The reason given was, first, the danger from local banditti in the tract of country on which I was now entering, but even more so the Kiangsu squeezes, by which the difference of cost of transport was more than overbalanced; the amount of squeezes or octroi duty on shirtings brought from Chin-kiang reaching over 600 cash per piece of shirtings, while the additional cost of land transport on goods from Che-foo was estimated to be not more than 300 to 400 cash.

The failure of the native cotton manufactories last year, in consequence of the presence of the rebels, makes the additional 30 or 40 cents per piece which the consumer is forced to give by the stoppage of the natural channel through which foreign manufactures should reach him, immaterial this season; as shirtings are still cheaper than native cottons: but when the cotton districts have recovered, it must have the effect of driving foreign manufactures out of the market, and is therefore worthy of attention.

I left Tanchêng with an escort civilly sent me by the magistrate, but thinking it unnecessary dismissed it, and proceeded alone to the frontiers of Kiang-nan, beyond which I understood the road was more or less dangerous, and finding the Mandarin in charge of the camp there away from home had pushed on some ten miles further, when I was warned by a villager that it was not safe to proceed. Luckily there was a small military post close by, and with some difficulty I persuaded the officer in charge to provide

me with an escort, which he was reluctant to do at first, but ultimately did on my determining to pass the night at the village, thinking the risk of losing some of his men by attack on the road less than the danger of my remaining there.

Passing the night in a fortified village, I proceeded the next day under escort to Sutsin, a district city on the Imperial Canal, poor in itself, but surrounded by a fortified suburb in which there were fine shops and a fair amount of trade.

The magistrate here received me very civilly, having met several of the officers of the various drilled corps, and insisting on confounding me with them. From Sutsin I only proceeded 50 li further by cart, the heat becoming unbearable, and travelling under escort proving both expensive and tiresome, as I felt compelled to give liberal douceurs in the interest of future travellers, and I could not have the same liberty of action or move so rapidly with twenty men at my heels as while travelling alone. I therefore took boat at Yang-hua-chi on the 9th August, twenty-two days from Yentai, and the same evening reached the old junction of the Imperial Canal and the Yellow River—the end of the first part of my journey. On the road I had passed through cultivated country; the whole way millet, Kaohang maize, and beans being found everywhere, and from Wei-hsien small quantities of cotton; at intervals I also found Indigo grown in small quantities, and either flax or ching, the North China hemp, wherever I went; tobacco, too, was growing in patches near most of the villages, and east of Wei-hsien I came across very large plantations. As I got further south, ground-nuts and sweet potatoes formed a portion of the crops, but nowhere were the principal one. I also noticed a remarkably fine breed of cattle with branching horns some 70 miles north of the Yellow River, small droves of which I met on their way northwards for the foreign market, a few reaching it southwards via Chin-kiang. The disturbed state of the country from 100 miles north to 30 miles south of the Yellow River is attributable to the number of returned rebels, who, giving up their open rebellion, in the faith of Li Futai's amnesty, still find it difficult to refrain altogether from the charming pursuit of plundering; and in a bad year, joined by the starving people dependent in consequence of the infamous roads on local production for their support, a new horde of open plunderers might at any moment arise: but the crops have fortunately this year been above the average, and with abundance of food the orderly-minded are able to repress the turbulently-minded few, and if there be a continuance of good harvests the Mandarins may again regain the power which has slipped out of their hands. As it is, I found the troops being rapidly disbanded, and the cavalry corps, a far from contemptible body, as far as I saw, being alone kept up; and should a rising take place there is little fear of the rebels being able to force their way north: every village now is surrounded by a wall of mud or stone of from ten to forty feet in height, and boasts its corps of volunteers. A march through Shan-tung would be a succession of sieges, and a plundering band of foragers (than which the Nienfei are little better) could not possibly exist, and if the Imperialists can hold the line of the Imperial Canal the south is equally secure.

(Signed)

C. ALABASTER.

PART II.

The remainder of my journey, that from the Yellow River to Chin-kiang, occupied but three days, and yet in that short time I saw one hundred times the number of people, and one thousand times the amount of trade, I had done in my journey through Shan-tung.

I reached Yang-chuang, the village on the north bank of the old Yellow River, at dark on the 9th of August, and at once found myself among a race resembling, in dress, manners, and language, those to whom I had been accustomed round Shanghai; fair complexions and loose clothes took the place of the tight-girt bronzed natives of Shan-tung, and rice was brought me for my evening meal instead of bread or biscuit.

Rising next morning at daylight, I started by chair to cross the river, in places existing now but in name: for although parts of the old bed are still swampy, the greater portion is cultivated, and numerous villages are scattered here and there about it; and a small canal, filled with the superabundant waters of the Imperial Canal, was the only representative of the mighty stream which once had rushed by, resistless, to the sea.

I had been told that it was seven miles to Chin-kiang-pu, the depôt of the place where the Imperial Canal used to join the south bank of the river, the space between it and Yang-chuang being now occupied by three locks; and when I had gone about ten li, was surprised to enter what at first I thought was a town grown up half-way in the

centre of the old bed; but the line of shops, hongs, inns, and houses came to no end, and I found that I was in the suburbs of Chin-kiang-pu, that had already spread thus far, and would seem to bid fair to extend, before another two years, quite to the northern bank. Through a bustling crowd I was carried six miles to the bank of the canal, to select from a fleet of boats of all sizes and descriptions the one which should take me to Chin-kiang. Had I been in Shanghai, and wanted to hire a boat to go up-country, a day's notice would have been required, with all the Chinese staff to help me; but here a foreigner perfectly alone—for my boy and baggage were following me on wheelbarrows—some distance behind—the difficulty of making up my mind which boat I should select was the only impediment to be overcome: so soon as I had picked out my boat a bargain was struck in a couple of minutes, as everything was ready for a start. Never before in China had I met with such business-like promptness as I found there. I could have, had it pleased me, laid in a cargo of any sort of goods in another hour.

Chin-kiang-pu proper lies on the east bank of the canal, and is entirely a trading town; on the west bank is the district city of Tsing-ho, the walls of which have been built in the last four years, and which is the head-quarters of the High Commissioner charged with the supreme direction of the transport of the grain tribute.

The granaries are at present empty, but the occupation the grain transport gave in old times is more than made up for by the place being made the *dépôt* of the armies of the north, and large stores of munitions of war filling the temples even, and hosts of officials on their way north or south occupying all available quarters. The town also has become the *dépôt* for the foreign trade with the north-west since the communications round Hankow have been interrupted. I found hong after hong full of foreign goods, with purchasers from Honan busily investing.

To attempt to describe Chin-kiang-pu in the limits of a short memorandum would be impossible; the only way to do so is to say that it appeared to me to be a purely Chinese Shanghai of three times Shanghai's extent, a city such as Soo-chow was before devastated by the rebels; and it is the more wonderful that it should be so that it has suffered cruelly, the suburbs having been twice almost utterly destroyed within the last ten years.

From Chin-kiang-pu to Chin-kiang it was a succession of trading towns and large walled cities too numerous for mention; the chief passed by me in the first day being Pan-chatzte, the head Custom-house of the Taoutai, or High Grain Commissioner, round which a considerable town has sprung up; Huai-an-foo, an extensive prefctured city, the walls of which lie for miles along the banks of the canal; Ping-chiao, a large market town, and the district city of Pao-ying.

The country here was said to be unsafe at night, and a body of supposed robbers pointed out to me on the banks of the canal in the dusk of the evening; but the stream of passengers to and fro in the day time prevents the danger of being attacked so long as the sun is up.

The second day, the Kaoyu Lake, on the west bank, was separated from the canal by the embankment; only the country on the east lay some 20 feet below the canal's level,—so low, indeed, that the walls of Kaoyu-chow, a sub-prefecture of considerable extent, are not visible on the northern side. This lake, called by different names, is an immense sheet of water, declared by the boatmen to be 500 li (over 100 miles) across, and is the source of considerable danger to the populous and highly cultivated tract lying to the east of the canal, as its waves, which, in strong north-west winds, rise with considerable violence, are gradually destroying the embankment on the west side of the canal, and will soon be prevented from inundating the country only by that on the east. Indeed, in places already, the west bank has given way, and the lives and fortunes of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, depend on the east bank alone; but although the peril is recognized, and the east bank is carefully watched, no funds seem to be forthcoming for the necessary works. In a few years the remains of the west bank will cease even to act as an effective breakwater, and, some weak point of the east bank giving way, the country will be inundated, and the remnants of the people, driven by starvation, will, as a new band of rebels, carry devastation into the other portions of the province.

Nor, unless the Chinese Government seek foreign aid, is there any remedy; the repair of the broken-down embankment is a work which not only taxes their engineering ignorance to the extent of its weakness, but is one they have no funds or probability of funds to carry out. If, indeed, they should seek our assistance in time, it appeared to me that, with foreign appliances, there would be no great difficulty in the undertaking, and even that it would be a profitable investment for foreign capital if the Chinese would concede the embankment as a line of railway; for in no part of China have I seen a line promising so extensive a traffic in passengers and goods, or one the cost of origina-

construction and maintenance of which would be less. It is true that the leking taxes, the inland squeezes, the octroi duties, of which the canal is so profitable a source, would fall before the railway; but the Chinese Government would save the expense of the maintenance of the embankment, no graves, houses, or Fungshui would be interfered with, no traffic interrupted, and a great peril would be averted. Passing the more or less important towns of Chi-shui, Chu-tse-sze, Ma-feng-tseun, Li-tsin, Sæo-pu, and the city of Kao-yu, and numerous smaller villages, I, on the morning of the third day, reached Yang-chow, the salt city of China, celebrated for its wealth, luxury, and turbulence, three times sacked by the rebels, and still considered by foreigners one of the finest accessible to us.

A short distance above the city, fortunately at the narrow portion of the lake, and where the level of the water is less above the surrounding country, the bank on both sides of the canal is broken down, and the country on the east side inundated: but although three years have elapsed since the bank gave way, no steps have been taken to repair it, and what otherwise would be a smiling plain still remains a swampy lake; while the rush of water across the canal forms a dangerous impediment to navigation. As I neared Yang-chow, the fleet of boats passing increased, and the canal round the city was so full of junks (those of large burthen being able to come up) that it was difficult to pass; and on all sides you saw signs of returning prosperity in the large hong's rising in the midst of blocks of ruins and the busy activity of builders.

Entering the town I found a certain sign of wealth in a long line of curiosity shops, in one of which I was shown some very handsome diamond ornaments; but, like Chin-kiang-pu, it is hopeless to attempt to describe the town. It is the head-quarters of the salt trade of the country supplied by the Yang-tsze, the Imperial Canal, and the Yellow River; and the manufacture of sweetmeats and preserves, for which it is celebrated, would still give it importance if the salt trade were removed. I found the people more ill-disposed than anywhere I had yet visited, and was called "yang-kuei tsze," or foreign devil, in the most offensive sense. From my start, I had always been called a devil, but rarely hitherto as an insult; it is a common term for foreigners, and I was several times, on my way, even spoken of by people seeking my aid under the impression that I was a doctor, as "his Excellency the Devil" ("Kuei tszê ta jên"); but at Yang-chow the people seemed to mean it as an insult, and more than one stone was thrown at me by the following crowd as I wandered through the streets. A foreign Mission has, however, settled there, and it is to be hoped Mr. Taylor and his companions will be able to impress their hearers with better feelings towards foreigners; they will find no difficulty in finding a congregation, for ascending a mound in an open space, to gain a view of the city, a crowd of several thousands came rushing towards me, and I had some difficulty in getting quietly away from them.

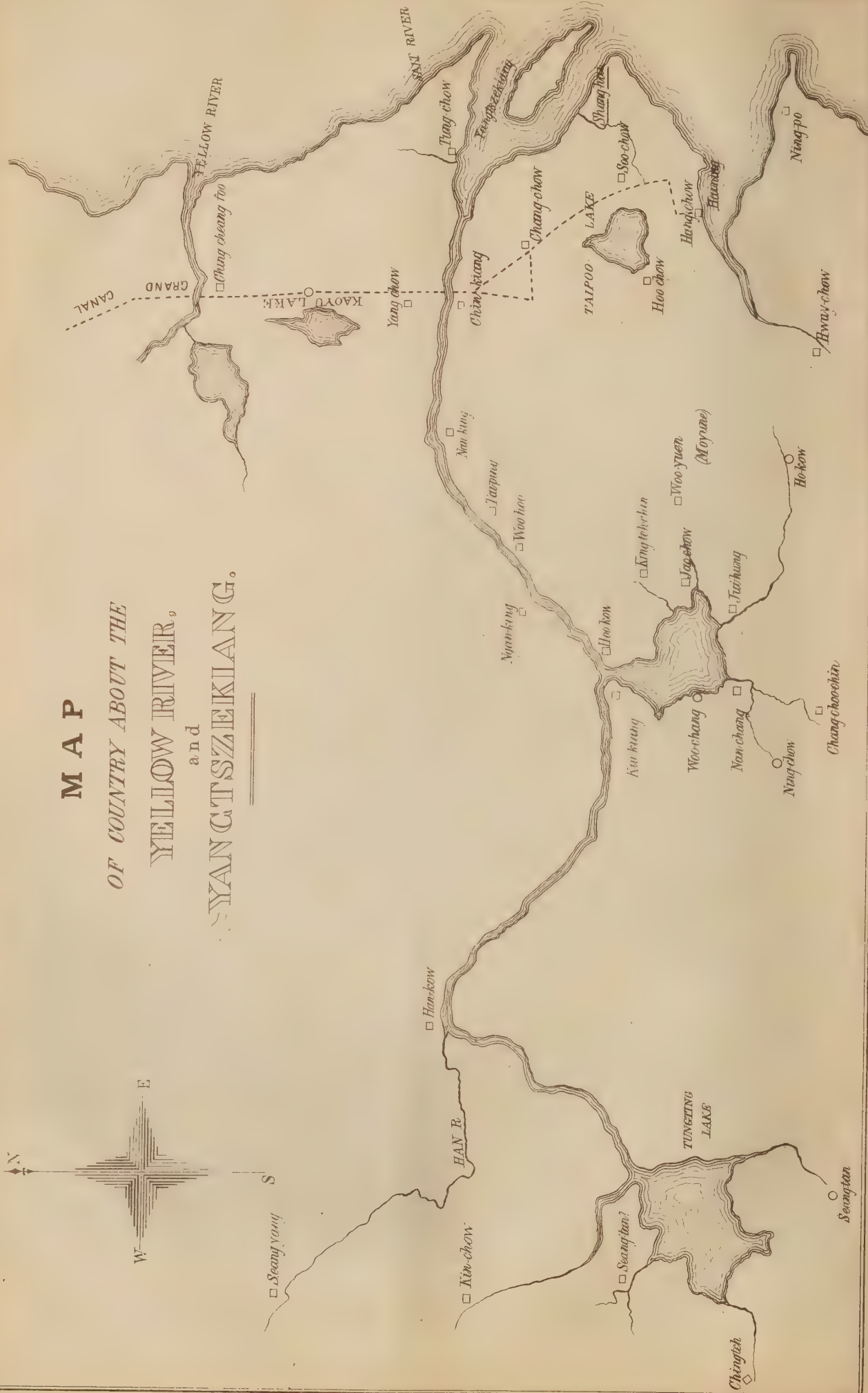
This was the only missionary station I had come across on my journey, although many places seemed adapted for mission work. I had brought a supply of books with me, and always found them gratefully received when, in return for some slight service, I presented one; nowhere had I found religious intolerance; and although in one place in Shantung I heard Christianity spoken of as a senseless profession, I, in all other places, found it spoken of as an excellent religion, leading men to do good.

From Yang-chow to the entrance of the Yang-tsze, the creek was full of junks and revenue cutters busily boarding the passing craft. My flag, however, in which my name and titles were inscribed, procured me the exemption from stoppage; and I arrived at the Yang-tsze and Chin-kiang without having once been required to show my pass, notwithstanding the innumerable barriers I had passed on the line of the canal.

These barriers form a noticeable feature on the canal; at nearly every village there is either an examining or other station, and I passed in three days over thirty; but so far as I could learn, and my information was confirmed on arrival at Chin-kiang, foreign goods pay and are examined only at seven in the 120 miles between the Yang-tsze and the Yellow River. These are Kuachow, where the Governor-General levies a duty of 120 cash (6*d.*) per piece on shirtings, and a proportionate levy on other goods; Yang-chow, where 60 cash (3*d.*) is taken by the Taoutae of Chin-kiang; Sæo-fu, where the Commissioner for the Grain Tribute collects 40 cash (2*d.*); and Ma-fung, Kao-yu, Paoying, and Huai-kuan, at each of which he exacts 50 cash or 2½*d.* more, making in all an amount of 420 cash or 10 per cent. of the price I found ruling at Chin-kiang-pu.

Were the Treaty honestly carried out by the mandarins, these squeezes would be an advantage to the foreign merchant who, carrying his goods up-country under a transit certificate, would be at an advantage as regards the native trader; but, as it is, goods sent up in this manner are so continually subject to detention that the Treaty advantage is rendered almost nugatory, and must continue so unless the foreigner be prepared to

MAP OF COUNTRY ABOUT THE YELLOW RIVER, and YANGTSEKIANG.



accompany his goods himself, for, with native agents, there will always either be ground for the action of the mandarins, or at least an impossibility of disproving the plausible excuses they always have at their command.

The crops along the whole of this part of my journey consisted entirely of rice, and from the pagodas I ascended on my way I could see nothing but fields and fields of paddy. Watered by the sluices of the canal, the crops are here independent of droughts, and is fitted to be, as it is, the granary of the Government.

Chin-kiang I found recovering as a mart of Chinese trade, land once more valuable, and streets of houses rapidly rising and taking the place of the brick mounds which distinguished it when I last saw it; but the business was, as before, chiefly in native hands, and but for the intelligence of the representative of British commerce there, would be entirely so,—so strong is the Chinese pressure, official as well as private, brought to bear upon him.

(Signed) C. ALABASTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Map of Country about the Yellow River and Yang-tsze-kiang.

No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1869.

I HAVE to instruct you to inform Mr. Alabaster that I approve of his having undertaken the journeys in the interior of China reported in the Memoranda which were inclosed in your despatch of the 7th of October last; and which I have read with much interest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 3.

Sir R. Alcock to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 19.)

My Lord,

Peking, April 5, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, in original, a long and detailed Report recently received from Mr. E. L. Oxenham, of his journey overland from Peking to Hankow, the port assigned him.

The itinerary of his journey from day to day during six weeks extends necessarily to a considerable length, and may be traced on the map prepared for the Department of the Reporter of Indian Products as the great trade route from north to south, striking the Han River at Shih-chia-tien-erh, 2,041 li, or 680 miles, from Peking. From this point Mr. Oxenham proceeded by boat down the Han River, some 520 miles, until it flows into the Yang-tsze at Hankow.

Having thus traversed some four of the provinces lying north of the Yang-tsze along the line of greatest traffic, he had an excellent opportunity of noting the extent and character of their commerce, the condition, and something of the temper, of the inhabitants, the physical aspect of the country and its state of cultivation after having been swept over by successive waves of insurrection, and the capabilities existing for foreign modes of locomotion both by land and water.

As I trust the whole Report will be printed, I will not take up your Lordship's time by any farther analysis of its contents. I will only add that it does so young a student of Chinese great credit, and shows that he possesses excellent powers of observation and has made the best use of them.

This, taken with a somewhat similar Report of a different line of route, from Che-foo to Chin-kiang, furnished last year by Mr. Alabaster, supplies many missing links and more recent information from personal experience than any we possessed of the state of these provinces, the re-establishment of order and industry. Both give encouraging facts

as to the facilities and advantages many of the inland centres of trade offer for the extension of foreign commerce: and, with a few exceptions, especially in Southern Honan and on the banks of the Grand Canal towards Yang-chow, the perfect security with which the country may be traversed by foreigners, the absence of any hostile feeling in the populations, and a willingness, in most places, to see the extension of foreign trade to their doors.

One of the most significant of Mr. Oxenham's observations points to the total ignorance of the bulk of the people, and officials even, one would almost infer, of our actual position in the country and presence at Peking. The traditions of Canton seem alone to have penetrated yet to these inner provinces; and this fact furnishes an additional motive for the desire to penetrate more freely into the interior. It shows, too, in a striking manner, the importance of greater facilities of access and means of extended intercourse.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Mr. Oxenham to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Hankow, March 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the following Report of my journey, undertaken with your permission, from Peking to Hankow, and passing through the Provinces of Chihli and Honan, to the centre of Hu-pei; and I trust that the great number of things worthy of record which I saw, may be some excuse for the great length to which I fear I have extended it.

On Monday, 2nd of November, 1868, I left Peking, and proceeded out of the Chang-i-men gate, in the west wall of the Chinese city, when I passed thus early on my journey an innumerable number of carts, gathered together in front of the inns, and almost blocking up the road, and were, to a certain degree, a prognostication of the traffic which I was to meet coming up from the south along this—the great high road from the south.

After leaving the city, a paved road led to nearly as far as the Sin-hou-ch'ao, a small walled town on the Peking side of the Hun-ho, and beyond which is the handsome bridge over that stream, and giving its name to the town. On arriving at the opposite side, the direction of the great road diverged towards the south, another but less important one proceeding due west towards the hills. The importance of the southern one soon became evident, its breadth being increased to double its former size, and along which numerous carts were slowly and painfully toiling, often 6 inches deep in the sandy ruts with which the track was covered. The goods taken in these clumsy and primitive vehicles, each drawn by its motley team of ponies, oxen, donkeys, and mules, consisted principally of cotton, oil, tea, medicine, and grain for the metropolis, whilst occasional strings of coolies might be seen carrying the same description of goods, and proceeding quite as speedily, if not more so, than the carts.

About fourteen miles from Peking, Ch'ang-hsing-tien in front, and on both sides of which stretched, as far as the eye could reach, a large earthwork, intended for the defence of the capital. I could see no signs of guns, and a great part of it was overgrown with grass; but a very small amount of labour would soon put it into a condition to present a formidable obstacle to an enemy approaching from the south.

Continuing my journey, I arrived in the evening at Tou-tien, having passed through Leong-hsing-hsien, a small ruinous-looking place, remarkable for nothing but its wall. The country was very similar to that about Peking, the fields perhaps being rather smaller, and the trees more numerous. Further south, the carrying trade seemed to be confined more exclusively to bales of cotton, and cotton cloth, immense quantities of which from the south of Chihli were proceeding in carts or on camels, towards Peking. The road passed through several villages, but none of any importance, till at the Lin-li-ho, on the south side of which stream crossed by a stone bridge of eleven arches, and with handsome marble balustrades, was the flourishing little town of the same name. It consisted of a single street nearly a mile in length, and was full of prosperous shops. About thirteen miles from this the road led through Che-chow, a large town of the second order, situated on the bank of a small river, flowing towards the south-east. It had the appearance of being a place of considerable trade, and the streets were crowded with people. Their great number was, however, accounted for by the fact, that a fair was

going on at the time, it being the 19th of the Chinese month. Nevertheless, the numerous and well-kept shops attested a certain degree of prosperity; but there were, however, more people and more traffic than the situation of the country appeared to warrant.

About a li from the southern suburbs of this town, the great road to Shantung and the south-east diverged, causing an immediate diminution in the number of carts and travellers. The Hsi-shan were just visible from the road, but in clear weather would be easily discernible, their distance being about fifteen miles off. The country remained flat as before, but the trees were less numerous, and great stretches of cultivated plain, inclosed by lines of trees about every two miles, became the principal characteristic. A slight change soon after took place, reedy and swampy places impregnable to cultivation being frequent. This, however, did not long continue, and the usual fields soon reigned pre-eminent, continuing so as far as Pao-ting-foo, where I arrived on the evening of November 4. This, politically, important city is situated in a plain, and about a mile to the south of a small river called the Ch'ao.

To the west, about twelve miles distant, and distinctly visible, are the Hsi-shan, the environs of the remaining quarters being the usual flat uninteresting country. Of natural defences the city seemed to possess none; but strong, high, and thick walls were a sufficient defence against Chinese artillery. A small mud wall of recent construction surrounded the suburbs, as also did a similar one some soldier's camps close under the north wall. The northern plain near the city was entirely uncultivated and covered with grass. On it were placed poles with flags flying on them, having inscribed the characters exhorting the local militia to be prompt in the execution of their duty, and warning travellers to beware of the rebels. Commercially, the place is of slight importance, and merits but slight notice. A small trade is carried on with Shan-hsi, whence comes iron and coal; foreign cloths and other goods being sent in return. The iron is manufactured into small iron balls used to roll about in the hand, which, together with pickles, appear to be the single manufacture. I took the opportunity to pay a visit to the inside of the city walls, and found the streets rather narrow after those of Peking, the appearance of the shops only betokening a slight amount of prosperity, and the population respectably numerous; but several bare spots inside the walls told their own tale. As the provincial capital it is the residence of a Governor-General, a provincial Treasurer, and a provincial Judge, and from this circumstance derives all its importance. In addition to the trade I have mentioned may be added the constant passage of travellers to and fro between Peking and the south. In accordance with your Excellency's instructions, I made every inquiry about the rebels who approached and were reported to have besieged this town in the winter of 1867-68. As far as I could gather from people in the town and in the vicinity, it appears that no actual bombardment of the city took place: the walls though old were everywhere in perfect repair; but that the enemy came very near, so near as to cause great apprehensions among the people is true, their distance from the walls being variously given as from two to four miles. Engagements took place in the immediate neighbourhood between them and the Imperial troops, and they finally suffered a severe defeat at a place twenty li from the city, after which they fled towards the south-east. The country people in the neighbourhood had, however, suffered severely from their ravages, but less than from the reports spread abroad of their cruelty than would be expected. In some small villages through which I afterwards passed, signs of the destruction wrought by their bands were everywhere visible; doors and windows had been torn off to make fires with, and holes had been knocked in the walls and roofs, but the houses had in no cases been completely destroyed. Chinese villages are so universally in a dilapidated condition that the damage attributed to rebels may sometimes be simply the result of the people's indolence and carelessness, but here such was evidently not the case. The inhabitants, I was told by an innkeeper whose inn bore signs of the destruction it had undergone, had all fled to the hills on the approach of the enemy, fearing outrage and death, so that in his and some neighbouring places no lives had been taken; but further south, in places where the people were unprepared, great atrocities had been committed. Everyone was agreed as to the large numbers of the rebels, some saying they extended over sixty li of country, another that they were 200,000 strong; and allowing somewhat for popular exaggeration, it seems evident that they were a large and formidable body. Their arms consisted of muskets and spears, but they had very few cannon in their possession. Everyone was also agreed upon the point that the Imperial troops were as much to be dreaded by the populace as the rebels. They did not slay, it is true; but pillage, robbery, and outrage marked their course. A people who have as much to dread from their avowed foes as from their nominal protectors are, indeed, in a pitiable condition, and the foreigner ceases to wonder at the continual outbreaks of rebellion. Something may be allowed to the wild license and savage passions engendered

by war in all countries and at all times, but a country unable to restrain its own soldiery seems ripe for the sickle. The fields, however, had been even, where possible, untouched by the spoiler; long lines of willow trees still continue to border the roads; the long stretches of cultivated land still continue to reproduce themselves with monotonous uniformity; and the fruit trees, the heritage from happier times, still continue to ornament the gardens of the cottager; and the tuns (brick towers erected every five li, and used to announce the approach of the foe) still remain undestroyed and generally intact. In mentioning these tuns it will be necessary for me to bring to your Excellency's notice the remaining traces of that vast organization which once stretched through the length and breadth of this wonderful Empire. It still exists, though with decreasing vigour. I have above stated the arrangement and use of the tun; in addition to these, at every three li, is erected a small house built of brick, and about 8 feet square; the face fronting the road is generally whitewashed, and on this is written, in the picturesque Chinese character, the distance from the nearest hsien, both to the north and the south, the name of the township this particular building belongs to, and the number, name, and residence of the thief-takers, watchmen, and police. By this means, if the performance equals the design, great facilities are thus offered to the robbed or benighted traveller. In addition to this, some attention—arising more from the economical laws of supply and demand than from any care of the Government—is paid, if not to the comfort, at least to the wants of the traveller. Every twenty li the thirsty mule finds pails of water set across the road for his refreshment, and tea-houses and inns, more or less dilapidated, abound in every village.

After leaving Pao-ting-foo my road continued through the usual monotony of cultivated plains, villages of considerable size being neither few nor infrequent. I was fortunate enough to pass through the country at the season of the autumn fairs, and I went through several places where they were going on. Immense quantities of grain of every kind were for sale, and in many places the women were occupied in spinning and selling cotton thread; an employment they were engaged on almost universally in Chihli. The cotton comes from the south of the province, and what thread is not consumed at home goes up to Peking. Long strips of blue cotton cloth were also abundant, and fruit, raw cotton, and the rude implements of Chinese agriculture complete the list. In all these places I met with no insult or even ridicule, and I was struck with the purity of their accent. Five days' journey from Peking, whilst at Tien-tsin distant eighty miles, another language almost exists, and this purity continued to within a few miles of the southern boundary of the province. On the 6th of November I arrived at mid-day at at Ting-chow, famous for an eye-salve, renowned throughout the Empire; and which, judging by the numbers and appearance of the shops dealing in that article, seems to be in great demand. Beyond this place, the aspect of the country entirely changed to flat and fertile fields, succeeded by so poor and sandy a soil that not even Chinese industry could cultivate it. It was, however, turned to some account, as plantations were scattered all over the country. They were composed of birch, willow, and poplar, and are cut down every three or four years, when the wood is used to make firewood and matches. The plain was watered by what the country people called the Sha River, now of no great breadth, but in summer overflowing large tracts of country. The banks on either side were bare of anything for the distance of half-a-mile from the river. The people were wilder in look, ruder in manner, and less intelligent than the agricultural population, but decidedly more independent and self-asserting. On the following day I arrived at Cheng-ting-foo, the residence of a Prefect, and renowned for its manufacture of images of Buddha, made with iron from Shan-hsi. It consisted of two long streets crossing one another at right angles and having some little traffic at one of the gates; but the dilapidated appearance of the houses told their own tale. Outside the two main streets, lanes, a few houses long, stretched into the plains which, surrounding them, extended to the walls. At the south gate I met some braves returning from drill, remarkable for the magnificence of their banners, the brilliancy of their attire, and the primitive and decayed nature of their arms, which consisted of a long spear and old flint musket per man. They appeared flushed with the excitement of their drill exercise, and by their proud and martial attitude would have extorted admiration from any one but a soldier. Outside the south wall was stretched a large grass plain untouched by the plough, and bounded by a broadish river about six or seven feet deep. It was crossed by a ferry, and I learnt from the boatman that this river, by name the Hun, flows into the Pai-ho near Tien-tsin, from which latter place large quantities of salt come up by boat to within a few miles of this ferry, and are sent on to Shan-hsi in exchange for iron. A Roman Catholic Mission and Bishop likewise resides at this Foo. About 40 li from the city the road to Shan-hsi was passed; the first place (and one which, whenever I spoke of iron, coal, or hardware, was always in men's

mouths) of importance on which was Huai-loo, whence comes large quantities of iron and coal. Possessing both in such abundance it has all the facilities for the smelting of the ore; and from the reports of the natives it must be a large and important place. Soon after passing the Shan-hsi road, I arrived at Luan-cheng-hsien, a well-built, prosperous town, with houses of a somewhat loftier aspect and better construction than is usual in Chihli. Banks and granaries were numerous, and there was a considerable trade in local agricultural produce. Beyond this town the country resumed its former aspect of monotonous cultivation and insipidity, and the inhabitants likewise regained the politeness and courtesy which seems to characterize the northern agricultural districts.

Another day's journey brought me to Pai-hswuy-hsien, where I was fortunate enough to fall in with a fair. The streets were lined with stalls and crowded with people selling rope, raw cotton, thread, grain, peas, native matches, and other country produce. And notwithstanding that the street was so crowded that the carts could only proceed at a snail's pace, causing some annoyance to the populace, I never heard an angry word or met with the slightest opposition. Great astonishment, some excitement, and an intense curiosity prevailed, but never transgressing the limits of politeness. This was perhaps attributable to the presence of a Roman Catholic Mission, which consisted of a chapel, a school, and some fifty converts in the neighbourhood. A short distance from this town the country underwent another change, and ranges of low downs appeared. The soil was of a chalky nature, and everywhere covered with the sprouting wheat. By the banks and streams, and in sheltered hollows, some trees were visible, and in one place in particular a large grove of them existed—used when of sufficient size to make scaffolding poles. After passing Hei-ping-hsien the country became as flat as before, but the land was less fertile, and the traces of rebel destruction became again apparent. Cottages destroyed, the mile-houses often entirely in ruins, and some tracts of country completely uncultivated. Guard-houses were erected at intervals and filled with local militia carrying their usual miserable arms. Flags were flying with exhortations written on them to be prompt in action against the rebels. On the borders of this kind of country was Shun-te-foo, a large city with a considerable local trade. The usual wall of some height and thickness surrounded it, and the streets, though not remarkable for their bustling appearance or for the excellence of the houses lining them, had better shops than the cities I before had traversed. The suburbs on the south side were of great extent, stretching nearly a mile beyond the walls, and possessing all the inns and eating-houses. It was remarkable at all the large walled towns, at least in Chihli, how all the life and activity of the city seemed concentrated in the suburbs, and likewise how much more prosperous the Chentien and hsiens were than the cities of greater size. I was assured this arose from the small number of and comparatively inferior rank of the officials, who were neither so much feared or so encroaching; and the people thus left more free to choose their own employments, and not subject to so many illegal exactions, were enabled to pursue their various trades with greater profit and greater energy. This state of things had, however, its unfavourable side, as the people were invariably much less civil and more disposed to be insulting. In the morning, on leaving Shun-te-foo, we were escorted for about two miles outside the mud walls of the suburbs by soldiers sent out by the Prefect for the protection of travellers against local banditti. A more miserable set of men I have seldom seen, but we fortunately had no occasion for their assistance. The country now resumed its usual appearance of cultivation, and the broad high-road passed between a continual succession of fields. On the 10th we passed the Ling-min-huanzu, where a long extent of wall stretched east and west as far as the eye could reach, and on the south side of which was a town full of shops and people. This barrier, I was informed, was the limit of the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of Chihli, although the actual province itself extended some distance further south. A few miles further brought us to Han-tan-hsien, famous for the many delights and pleasures to be found inside its walls, and for the beauty of its situation. I was, however, unable to discover anything in any way remarkable about it, as the situation was in no respects striking, and the town itself in a very dilapidated condition. The women of the place and neighbourhood are famous for their beauty, and arrange their hair in a coil at the back of the head, when, with the assistance of a silver comb, they form it into a crest; this, I fancy, has contributed largely to their reputation for personal charms, which their natural features do not seem at all to deserve. Carts lumbering slowly along at the rate of three or four miles an hour have again become numerous; and in addition to tea, medicine and tobacco, and varnish, many of them were carrying coal brought from the Hsi-shan in the neighbourhood, and costing 200 cash a chin. Sixteen miles from here the road for the first time in my journey passed through fields cultivated with the cotton plant. A broad stream with numerous offshoots, running at right angles into the fields for the purposes of irrigation, ran on each side of

the road, and the careful Chinaman had made use of them to rear fish as well. The plants were all brown and withered, but numbers of women were employed in the fields gleaning for what they could find. This is the cotton used by the northern Chinese to pad their garments with during winter, and is the article used by the village women to spin into thread. It is, however, regarded as of an inferior quality. The cotton fields ceased after three miles, and the usual corn everywhere prevailed again interspersed with occasional vegetable gardens, which in the neighbourhood of Su-chow entirely took possession of the fields. Su-chow, through which I passed, is a large town of considerable local importance. The streets were crammed with people and lined with shops in which large quantities of grain, pots and pans, and long blue cotton cloth were for sale. The staining of tables a deep cherry colour seemed another fruitful branch of commerce, and peculiar to the place and its neighbourhood. So engrossed, however, were the people with their own affairs that they scarcely deigned to cast a glance at me, although I was probably one of the first foreigners many of them had seen. A large suburb, with its inclosing mud wall, extended towards the south. Towards the evening of the same day I arrived at Sang-chang-ho, a river of some breadth and about 6 feet deep. It flowed through a sandy expanse of ground which is in summer completely inundated with water. All the traffic is, therefore, at that time of the year compelled to make a long detour in order to arrive at a passable spot. To obviate this, wonderful to relate, the local magistrate had determined to erect a bridge of wood, and some of the piles were already driven in. As this bridge would have to be about a quarter of a mile long, and be proportionately expensive, it speaks well for that official's energy, and shows there still remains some even in Chinese officials. On the opposite bank is the province of Honan, of which this river is the north boundary, and where I arrived on the evening of the 11th of November.

Sixteen miles south of this place brought me to Chang-te-foo, a city equally famous for its trade, its prosperity, and the excellence of its buildings. It is situated on the south bank of a river of some size flowing into the Peiho near Tien-tsin, and crossed by a bridge of six arches. Below this bridge I noticed several small junks which carry down to Tien tsin coal and cotton, bringing back in return salt and foreign goods. From this circumstance it is evident the water must be of some depth, but not sufficient to be of much avail for anything but small boats. The absence of a river of sufficient depth would, in the present condition of China, prevent this city being opened to foreign trade; but in the event of a railway passing along this route it could not fail to be a place of great importance. On entering the walls I soon perceived that I had arrived at a city very different from the so-called Foes of Chihli. Handsome temples in first-rate repair, and stone pai-loos, elegantly carved, bespoke the piety or the wealth of the inhabitants; whilst a busy and numerous population, and the constant succession of shops, gay with the fantastic ornaments of the Chinese, showed the sources whence this wealth was derived. Outside the main street, instead of the bare spaces destitute of houses, which are inclosed in a wall to dignify a village, the residence of some Prefect, with the title of Foo, are here to be seen a constant succession of well-built dwelling-houses reaching up to the very base of the wall. In passing through the streets of this crowded city I was the subject of an intense and amused curiosity, but beyond some boys making use of the phrase "Yang huetzu," for which in most cases they were rebuked by the bystanders, I met with neither insult nor injury. When it is considered that I was nearly half-an-hour before I got clear of the houses, and that, being on horseback, I was a very conspicuous object, such a fact speaks well for the Chinese character, and is hardly the treatment a Chinaman would have met with in similar circumstances in England fifty years ago, before the introduction of railways. From inquiries I made about the rebels, it appears that they, 200,000 strong, were for a few weeks in the neighbourhood. The people all fled to the city for protection, which it fortunately afforded them, a large body of Imperial troops being stationed there. These soldiers eventually were marched out for battle, and gave the rebels a severe defeat, driving them off to the eastwards.

About four miles from Chang-te-foo, at a small village where I stopped for my midday halt, immense quantities of wheelbarrows were collected, for by this slow and tedious method most of the goods are here conveyed.

The country now became undulating with a succession of downs. The soil was chalky, and in some few places entirely uncultivated, and I was surprised to observe the excellence of the roads: hard, smooth, and destitute of ruts as they were, they would not have disgraced an English high road. Crossing these downs came large numbers of wheelbarrows, and in one place where the country was unusually high and open, and where a strong wind was blowing in their favour, all of them set up a sail to assist them in their journey. The manner in which this was arranged was as simple as it was ingenious. Two long bamboo poles were fixed upright at the end of the wheelbarrow, to

which was attached a piece of cloth, an old coat, a sack, or, in fact, anything which would catch the wind. It was impossible not to admire the ingenuity which could avail itself of so novel an assistant, and the persevering industry which could take so cumbersome a conveyance such long distances. The men who use these cumbersome and loud shrieking vehicles contrive to take them 70 li a-day, and in the event of a favourable wind often 100 li. One man generally manages the wheelbarrow, though he sometimes avails himself of the assistance of his son, his wife, or his donkey; and on the whole, though an Englishman may marvel, he is not likely to desire either to copy or to admire such a mode of conveyance. Each man owns his own wheelbarrow, as the drivers do the carts, so that the system of personal ownership, and consequently awakened self-interest, seems to prevail in China from the land to the wheelbarrow. On these bare, houseless, and often uncultivated downs were here and there erected stone monuments to deceased Chinese statesmen, and many casual expressions used by the natives reminded one, that now one was arrived at the classic land of the dynasty of the Sung. Another day's journey through country of a similar nature, where broken-down houses often gave evidence of rebel destruction, brought me on the 13th November to Wei-kin-foo, a large city situated on a fertile plain, and distant from the Hsi-shan about 6 miles. These mountains, which for the last few days have disappeared from view, begin here again to make their appearance. The road in one place passed so near them that I was able to distinguish the nature of the rocks, which had the appearance of being of a basaltic nature, and I could plainly distinguish the different ranges of mountains rising one behind the other, and some attaining to a considerable height, but uncovered with snow or ice. The city of Wei-kin-foo had a very handsome appearance, several large pagodas and towers ornamented the place, and temples, well wooded and prettily situated, abounded in the vicinity. The walls of it are washed by the waters of the Wei River, a large broad stream of considerable depth, sufficient for moderately sized junks to ascend from Tien-tsin. At the place itself there is between 12 and 15 feet of water, and though the river has not a uniform depth of this nature, yet I was assured an average of from 8 to 10 feet may be relied on. Large quantities of coal come from a place called Fang-shan-hsien, about 100 li distant, and are sent to Tien-tsin in exchange for its salt. Traces of the rebels, who plundered, ravaged, and burnt last year up to the very walls of the city, are still visible in the ruined houses and broken doors and windows. Provisions were likewise very dear from the same cause. The advantages this place possesses as a possible residence for foreigners are neither few nor unimportant. Though not equalling in the extent of its trade Chang-te-foo, yet the beauty of its situation, the abundance of coal, the presence of what in Europe would be called a navigable stream, and the healthy nature of its climate, all seem to give it the superiority, whilst the people are courteous and obliging. In addition to this, the high road branches off to Kai-feng-foo, another, though shorter, route leading more directly to Fan-cheng; and Shan-hsi, the great iron and coal mart, is in the immediate neighbourhood. It was with great regret I was compelled to give up proceeding to the capital of Honan, but the state of the roads rendered it impossible; and though, in hopes of getting more favourable answers, I made every inquiry, yet the people unanimously declared the roads too heavy for the passage of carts.

On leaving this city my road lay for the rest of my land journey along country roads, tolerable indeed, but narrow tracks after the broad highway along which I had so long been travelling. Traces of the rebels were constantly appearing, but the industry of the people had entirely obliterated any marks of their devastation on the fields, and universal cultivation reigned supreme. The majority of my fellow-travellers, some of whom had accompanied me from Peking, and the greater part of the traffic likewise, proceeded along these country roads, and I was credibly informed that at all times most of the traffic takes this road, partly because it is shorter and partly to avoid the dangerous ferry at K'ai-feng-foo. A new feature in the country now presented itself: I mean, the presence of numerous walled villages. Their walls are generally built of mud, are about six feet or more in thickness, and generally possess four stone gateways. These fortifications are not erected by the Government, but by the people as a defence against the continual invasions of rebels. In one place the whole village—men, women, and children—were engaged in repairing the wall with earth taken out to deepen the moat. None of the gateways had any appearance of antiquity, the second and third year of Tung Chih being the most frequent date. This instance of local public spirit and independence was remarkable, and this, together with the number and evident importance of the local militia, shows how, even now, in parts of the country free from the encroachments of a corrupt and pedantic officialism, a large amount of public spirit and courage still exists among the body of the people, so that they seem to want not so much new forms and

theories of government as that the theories of their own great philosophers should be put into practice—a thing now impossible when a body of officials exists whose only from poverty lies in bribery and extortion.

In traversing the open plains of Northern Honan and the great stretches of cultivated land in Chihli it was impossible not to be struck with the extraordinary facilities these parts of China possess for the movements of large bodies of troops, and this may perhaps account for the constant succession of invasions, battles, and sieges of which this part of the Empire has been so often the theatre; the nearness to the capital, and the consequent ease with which the authorities at Peking are intimidated, is another, and all these combined may account for this continual warfare which seems to have made Northern Honan the Belgium and cockpit of China.

At Hsin-Hsiang-hsien, the road to Shan-hsi, was passed, and in five hours more the neighbourhood of the Yellow River was reached. A series of banks some ten or twelve miles from its northern bank showed the distance its ravages extend. These defences were of no great height, but stretched to the east and west as far as the eye could reach, and seemed to be the termination of a series of gigantic steps sloping on the whole up (though sometimes towards) from the Yellow River. They were of sufficient size to keep out stagnant water, but not bulky enough to resist a sudden inundation, so that, at this distance, only the ultimate, not the immediate, results of these inundations are to be seen. At last, in a village apparently bounded by an earthen wall as large as that of the Tartar city of Peking, was reached the first of the outworks erected to resist the Huang-ho, and on arriving at the top that river and the gigantic earthworks rendered necessary by its outbreaks burst on the view.

On a level with the spot on which I was standing, stretched a series of embankments each one about seventy feet high and of breadth sufficient for four railway trucks to run abreast on them. The mode of their arrangement was in this wise: one long bank about two miles from the river bank ran parallel to the direction of the stream, half-a-mile distant from it ran a similar one; these two embankments were then connected by another series exactly similar in size, height, and breadth, and running at right angles to them right down to the edge of the water so as to present their narrow ends to the river. By these means the country is divided into a series of squares offering, I should imagine, a very effectual resistance to any inundation. In many of these inclosed spaces groves of tsao-trees were growing, and in a few places were some unsuccessful attempts at corn-growing; but in the squares next to the water bare stretches of sand, with a little coarse grass growing on it, were all there was to be seen. On reaching the bank the yellow colour of the river attested the correctness of its name, but the current, though by no means slow, did not impress me by its rapidity. The breadth I calculated at about half-a-mile, and from the bank the stream had the appearance of deserving in some degree the approbation as well as the execration of mankind, for so broad a river must be of value to the commercial world; but on embarking on board the ferry-boat, by which men, carts, and ponies are all conveyed across, I found how cruelly I was deceived, for on proceeding across the river we were poled nearly the whole of the way, and it was not until arriving close under some mountains which bounded and ran down into the water on the opposite bank that deep water was reached; there was a channel of 20 to 30 feet deep and some 12 feet in breadth, but this was simply owing to the proximity of the hills. The current was swifter than at first appeared likely, and the ferry-boat was hauled some distance along the northern bank before the transit was begun, a depth of from 4 to 6 feet was the average. Several small junks were sailing up the stream, but from inquiries I made there does not appear to be any great trade, the little that there is consisting of grain.

The inundations for which this river has a melancholy celebrity are most prevalent during the fifth, sixth, and seventh Chinese months. The great quantities of goods, principally tea, from Hsiang-yang-foo and Hankow, lying on the bank awaiting transshipment, showed how this country route is becoming popular; and though at present peculiar circumstances have diverted the trade from K'ai-feng-foo, yet this line of route seems likely, eventually, to supersede the old high-road.

The south bank of the Yellow River was entirely destitute of the elaborate series of embankments which were erected on the northern bank, partly because the range of the Mang hills bordering the south bank of the river would naturally impel the waters more towards the north bank, and partly because the country itself was more undulating and often traversed by low hills. The Mang hills, apparently consisting principally of earth, and said to possess some coal, ceased at the landing-place on the southern bank, and the country there lay open to the river. In appearance, however, it was entirely different to that through which I had been passing. Small fields, generally divided by banks and

occasionally by hedges, imparted a more varied aspect to the landscape, to which orchards of tsao-trees lent an additional charm.

It was agreeable to travel through country of a somewhat more varied nature, and which continued almost the whole of the rest of my land journey. The country to the south of the Yellow River now became of this nature, and a constant succession of hill and dale reminded me often of England, whilst the numerous farms with their thatched roofs, and occasional gardens, surrounded with clumps of trees, did not diminish the similarity. Short ranges of hills, mostly running north and south, were not unfrequent, and some of them were reported to contain coal,—a rumour which was verified at Hsin-cheng-hsien, in whose southern suburb was a regular market for the sale of this valuable mineral. It is here brought down in small boats from some hills to the west of the town; but it was soft, and of an inferior quality. This country, for three or four days' journey to the south of the Yellow River, has another peculiar feature, namely, the extraordinary manner in which it is split and rifted into innumerable cracks and ravines. The earth has thus the appearance of having been, when wet, suddenly dried by a very hot sun, and thus divided into a series of gigantic splits. The result of this was, that the roads were continually passing between high earthen banks, often as much as 30 feet in height. Carts seem to be again the principal conveyances, though wheelbarrows are occasionally met with, and tea and medicine the goods most generally carried; and considering that this is a country-road, in large quantities. In several of the fields I noticed a sort of coffin-shaped basin, built of brick and plaster; and on inquiring, found it was the "leang-tien," or indigo vat, used for dyeing the native cloth. The dye is said to be manufactured from the leaves of trees, but from what particular species of tree I could not discover. The people wore a healthy, well-fed, happy appearance; and though rather rude in their manners, and gruff in their answers, were, on the whole, fairly obliging. The harvest this year had been an excellent one, so that I saw them under the most favourable circumstances; but after a bad one I could imagine the traveller might tell a different tale. The harvest being over, a series of rejoicings and fairs were being proceeded with in most parts of the country; and almost everywhere might be seen a theatre with its crowd of open-mouthed rustics. If the nature of a country has any influence over the appearance of the inhabitants, the character of these people is accounted for, and a happy agricultural life seems possible for them in a country so diversified with such a variety of scene, and such a variety of employments.

On 18th of November I arrived at Hsiang-ch'eng-hsien, a large and flourishing town, situated on the Ju-ho, with a range of hills stretching from east to west, immediately to the south of it. The river is broad and deep, having a bridge with a kind of drawbridge in the centre over it, and some large barges were anchored below it. The stream, I was told, flows past Yang-chow into the Yang-tsze, and some trade consequently descends it, a great quantity of coarse crockery-ware being sent; foreign goods from Shanghai among other things being brought back in return. In the suburbs the houses were, for the first time in my journey, not built of mud or bricks, but of a red freestone, large quantities of which are found in quarries in the neighbouring hills. Having time to spare, I entered on foot the walls of this town, and found it a flourishing place; but the lateness of the hour, and an enormous and constantly-increasing crowd, soon compelled my retreat. The people were, however, extremely civil, and considering that (as I was afterwards informed) two Englishmen, about three years back, had behaved in a manner disgraceful to themselves and to their nation, going sometimes so far as to fire at the people, such conduct speaks well for the character of the populace. The following day the road led through a pass in the Chow hills behind the town, and met numerous carts carrying tea, medicine, and immense quantities of coarse paper. The houses continued for some distance to be built of stone; but on leaving the hill district, and arriving once more at the plain cultivated with corn, and orchards of tsao and persimmon trees, they were again constructed of mud or bricks. In one place we came upon the astonishing spectacle of Chinamen mending a road, and the manner in which they proceeded to perform this action merits some slight description. Their method was this: they dug two broad ditches, one on each side of the road, about 15 feet broad and 3 feet deep. The earth thus obtained was thrown on the offending road, and men with rammers completed the business. The effect of this was to make the tolerable intolerable, and the bad totally impassable for at least a month, at the expiration of which period the road will probably return to its pristine badness.

On this day, in passing through a large chen-tien, where, as I have already remarked, a foreigner is much more liable to insults than in the larger towns, I experienced, for the first time on my journey, great rudeness from the populace, who strove in every way, except blows, to manifest their hatred to foreigners. On first

entering the gates I imagined the place to be a large village, and that the houses would soon cease; but when, after proceeding nearly half-a-mile through a hooting and enraged population, only waiting for a leader to set upon me, matters began to look more serious. I was unfortunately, at the time, entirely by myself, the carts having made a *détour* to avoid the lately-mended roads, so that I was entirely at the mercy of the crowd. Fortunately, however, the streets grew broader, and as soon after the gate leading into the country became visible, I galloped away from the crowd, saluted by hoots, groans, and showers of stones.

In the evening we arrived at Chin-hsien, another large town; and on the following day, after passing over a succession of downs, arrived at Su-chou. Here a continuous rain compelled me to remain two nights; and I was enabled by chance to verify with my own eyes the reports the Chinese universally give of the mischievous brutality of the Imperial soldiery.

On the night of our arrival all the inns were crowded with Government troops, disbanded and returning home to Shan-hsi, compelling us to take refuge for the night in a large stable. The next morning their departure enabled us to proceed to an inn, where we found the doors taken off their hinges, the windows all smashed, and holes knocked both in the walls and roof. In addition to this, not one cash did the innkeeper get for the food and lodging with which he had supplied them, or for the furniture and crockery they had destroyed.

A continuance of rain compelled me to give up any idea of continuing my journey by land, and I accordingly struck across country to a place called Shih-chia-tien'rh, the highest navigable place on the Han River, and I arrived there on the 22nd of November.

On the following day, on proceeding to the river, about half-a-mile distant from the walls, I had an opportunity of seeing the town, and was astonished to see from the walls what a large place it was. Although but an ordinary chen-tien, the walls extended for twenty-five li in circumference, and several large warehouses, with their yards full of goods, from the south, attested the trade and prosperity of the place. The shops, though not large, were in capital order, and the whole town gave me the idea of great prosperity. As men from all parts of the Empire are here congregated together, and especially men from Canton, Fuh-chien, Hunan, and the south, the population is of rather a motley character, and the place has a bad reputation for the character of its inhabitants. My own observations confirmed this report, and members of the Chinese rowdy class seemed numerous. My arrival, and consequent walks about the streets, spread the news of my presence far and wide, and I was unable to stir from the inn without being followed by half the city; and in their eager desire to see a foreigner, my inn was almost besieged, an enormous crowd completely blocking up the street in which it was, and effectually preventing either ingress or egress. Having endeavoured, but without success, to disperse them, I sent my card into the local officials, who kindly sent some policemen to assist me, and these men remained for the rest of my stay in the inn. I cannot say they were of much assistance to me, but the goodwill of the mandarins deserves some little recognition. At the time of the rebellion this town was a great centre of disaffection, and is still, I believe, regarded with suspicion by the provincial authorities.

On the evening of the 24th, having made all my arrangements, I went on board the boat, and on the following morning started down the Han. The river is here about 50 yards broad, and 6 feet deep, and rendered navigable by the entrance of another large stream. For about half-a-mile the bank of the river was lined with small boats, averaging about 30 feet long and 8 broad, and resembling in their construction our barges at home, though of a less cumbrous nature. The boat proceeded but slowly, as the sandbanks were numerous, and contrary winds continually delayed my course. The people whilst I was passing through Honan were excessively rude and turbulent; and as my two days' stay at Shih-chia-tien'rh had enabled all the country-people to know of my presence, they were everywhere on the look-out. When the boatmen refused to stop they used bad language, and in some places threw stones and mud, refusing to discontinue till I came on deck and remonstrated with them. At one or two small towns where the boat was obliged to anchor to purchase provisions, half the population would turn out, and, on the boatman desiring to depart, refused to allow him, using opprobrious epithets and threatening gestures. I always insisted, however, on leaving such places as soon as the necessary purchases were made, but showers of mud and stones showed the temper of the populace. Nor did I find them even pleasant to converse with, as they often refused to answer a civil question; or, if they did, in a rude, discourteous manner. Though independent in manner, they likewise had a loose, disorderly expression about them, which seems

to justify the bad reputation they have amongst the Chinese. Nor did there seem any special immediate cause for such conduct, such as a bad harvest, an inundation, or an invading army; the fields were well cultivated, and the houses appeared in perfect repair. The country, though by no means flat, could not be termed hilly, and, from what I could see of it, was universally cultivated,—corn, millet, cotton, and oats being the principal crops.

On the 1st of December I arrived at the borders of Hu-pei, and very glad I was to escape out of the hands of the fierce democracy of Honan. The river increased in breadth, but not in depth, and the boat, though not drawing more than 1 foot of water, was continually aground. Various kinds of roots are here cultivated, many of which were unknown to me, and a species of radish of a purple colour, and of the shape, though larger than a carrot, called the *pai-shu*, being, when fried, an excellent substitute for potato. Further south great quantities of yellow peas are grown and shipped off in junks from the banks for Hankow and the south. A kind of sweet pea, creeping along the ground, whose beans, when dried, are much eaten by the natives, was also very plentiful; it is called *chih-mo*. The banks of the river were thickly inhabited, large *ch'ais* occurring every twenty li, with small villages interspersed between. In Hu-pei the inhabitants were polite and courteous, and I was able to walk along the banks in peace. We met great quantities of junks of small size proceeding north, conveying tea, silk, cloth, bamboos, and a little foreign cloth. After entering Hu-pei the river grew sensibly broader, and on the whole deeper, though still full of numerous sandbanks, requiring care and skill to avoid. As we neared Fan-cheng, however, the banks grew higher, and the water deeper and broader, sufficiently so to enable the large junks to float. The aspect of the river remained thus for the two days before reaching Fan-cheng, at which place I arrived on the 3rd of December, having passed through a fertile and populous country, and along a river too shallow to be of any avail for foreign steamers.

In accordance with your Excellency's instructions I proceeded to land, in order that I might make the necessary inquiries as to Hsiang-yang-foo, which place I discovered was about two miles distant. The spot where the great majority of the junks were anchored was at the place where the Hsiang River enters the Han, trebling the size in every way of that otherwise small stream; and here, as in many cases, the smaller stream giving the name and the larger the water. The number of junks was very great, lying ten or twelve deep on both sides of the Hsiang, and leaving but a narrow space for the passage of boats. All sorts were there, from the great mandarin junk down to the small travelling boat. On landing I was surprised to discover that I was among a quantity of houses built of nothing but mud and millet-stalks, and containing nothing but eating-houses and provision shops for the use of the boating population. The annual inundations are the cause of the wretched materials used. Accompanied by my servant I walked along the banks of the Hsiang the two miles to Fan-cheng, and had an admirable opportunity for surveying the aspect and position of these two large towns. They are situated on opposite banks of the Hsiang, and Fan-ch'eng bears much the same resemblance to Hsiang-yang-foo that Hankow does to Wu-chang-foo. In both cases the trade is largest in the town; and in both cases the strong high walls, the yamens, and the other paraphernalia of officialdom belong to the city. A lofty and picturesque amphitheatre of mountains surrounds three sides of the plain on which they are situated, extending for a long distance (some 100 li I was informed) towards the south-west, but only a few miles towards the north-east. A large portion of the plain, on which Hsiang-yang-foo is situated, being surrounded on three sides by water, is entirely uncultivated, being in fact nothing but a great spit of sand, which in summer is invariably overflowed. On the Fan-ch'eng side, however, the usual crops were extensively cultivated. On arriving at the low wall of Fan-ch'eng I entered the gates, and found myself, for the first time in my journey, in the narrow paved streets of the south, and entirely impassable for carts. The shops were numerous, and from their thriving appearance apparently did a large business. Rope, wine, articles of dress, boots, and some foreign cloth were for sale, and immense quantities of grain and edible roots were lying for sale in the market, and had lately arrived from the neighbouring country. The foreign cloth was spoken of as remarkably dear and not very plentiful, and was far too expensive to be of any avail to any except the very rich. This was easily accounted for from the fact that it is a monopoly in the hands of five Chinese hong, who can place, from the absence of all competition, any price they please upon their goods. These people are naturally very hostile to the idea of foreign steamers ascending the Han, as it would of a certainty destroy their comfortable monopoly and excessive profits, and they consequently use all the influence they can bring to bear on the authorities to prevent such a catastrophe. The boatmen, who make their living by conveying goods from the south,

were, however, of an entirely opposite opinion, and many expressed a hope that the foreign fire-wheel vessels might soon ascend to Hsiang-yang-foo. Nor did they appear to dread the competition which at first, at any rate, would cause them some slight loss, but they were probably ignorant of the great capacities of foreign steamers. Similar monopolies may be expected to exist at many places in the interior of the Empire. An enormous, but very civil crowd, soon gathered about me, and accompanied me wherever I went. Though indirectly they were a considerable annoyance, shopmen and innkeepers often refusing me admittance to their premises for fear of them, yet I was subjected to no indignities, except from the juvenile population, here as elsewhere, eager to annoy and provoke a foreigner and a stranger. Their elders often reproved and restrained them, but their own eagerness to behold me deprived their conduct of any remarkable energy. The numbers at last became so insupportable I was compelled to depart, accompanied by crowds to the water's edge, and by embarking in a boat escaped from their importunities. The inns in this place were remarkably spacious, lofty, and clean, for which the great numbers of travellers, officials, and merchants continually passing through, and generally being compelled to wait a day or more, till their boat or cart is prepared, is a sufficient reason. A little higher up the river, and nearer the mountains, is Hsiang-yang-foo, a large city surrounded by lofty walls and the residence of a Taoutae and Prefect. I was told it was formerly the residence of a Nieh-tae and Fan-tae, at which time its prosperity was probably greater than at present.

As the terminus of the great high road from Peking and the north, and as the place where all the goods from the south are removed from the boats into carts or wheelbarrows, this important town merits some few observations on the possible advantages it may possess for future foreign residents, and for becoming another step further inland whence there may radiate into central and north-west China, foreign goods, foreign improvements, and their inseparable companions, foreign ideas. The Han connects it with the Yang-tsze, the Hsiang with the north-west provinces, and the great northern high-road would afford further facilities for trade.

I was deeply impressed throughout my journey with the ignorance of foreigners displayed by the poorer and even well-to-do classes; the most absurd notions were prevalent among them, often breeding prejudices noxious to our trade and influence; and the presence of foreigners actually residing amongst them seems necessary to remove these feelings. Honan has long been celebrated for the number of its rebellions and the turbulence of its inhabitants: the presence of Europeans in the neighbourhood might induce them, from the motives of fear and self-interest, to lead a more settled life. Foreigners residing in Fan-ch'eng would, however, have little to dread from the people. They are, though the reverse of servile, perfectly courteous, and seemed not averse to the possible residence of Europeans amongst them. It may here be remarked, with regard to the question of residence in the interior, that the Chinese do not seem very averse to such a course, and in many places through which I passed they almost appeared to welcome the idea. Those people who, under the indiscriminate title of Orientals, confound Chinese and Hindoos, Mongols and Malays, and are of opinion that because one race requires protection against even a solitary foreigner so also must another, may rest assured that, of all people, Chinamen are best able to take care of themselves, and certainly everywhere, except perhaps in the Imperial province, able and willing to make any foreigner rue any violent or cruel act he may commit; and the foreign merchant would soon discover that his truest interests lay in obedience to the laws and even the prejudices of the people.

The Hsiang River would, I fear, be impassable for foreign steamers beyond 300 or 400 li above Hsiang-yang-foo; but as a step further inland, and as an inlet of light capable of dispelling the mists of prejudices not wilful, and an ignorance not blameable, this place would be valuable in other ways besides those connected with commerce. There is, however, a considerable trade with Han-su and Shan-hsi carried on in native boats, bringing down from the north-west hemp, varnish, water, tobacco, grass-ropes, wood, furs and skins, and a little iron.

The fact of this place being the terminus both of the land and water routes naturally brings the question of locomotion before the mind, and it may not be out of place if I venture to offer a few remarks here on the many and great advantages the route along which I have been travelling offers for the construction of any future railway. A country for the most part level, or with hills of but slight importance, with but a single river, the Huang-ho, which would offer any serious obstacle to engineering science; with coal in abundance, even now when its education and management is in the hands of the Chinese; with iron from the Hsi-shan, the mountains which border the route nearly all the way to Wei-hui-foo; with a country universally cultivated with the tenderest care, and rich in

crops of millet, of corn, of beans, and in parts of cotton; and finally, with a succession of large and opulent towns, only needing the invigorating and life-awakening presence of a railway to render them larger and more opulent, it would be difficult to name any route combining so many advantages. When clumsy carts, wheelbarrows, and donkeys, proceeding at the rate of from three to five miles an hour, are at present the only means of locomotion, it is impossible not to be struck with the enormous reform and change that would be wrought. It is sometimes advanced that the Chinese are not a travelling race: that they do not of their own freewill may be true; but the circumstances necessitating travelling are, perhaps, more numerous in China than in any other country.

When the continual examinations, civil and military, both at the provincial capitals and the metropolis; the continual movement and changing of the immense body of officials; the necessity of every small mandarin having to visit the Emperor on his appointment,—when all these are taken into consideration it can hardly be maintained that the nation is not prepared to travel. In addition to this, the enormous trade daily and hourly passing between all parts of the Empire, gives employment to thousands of men, and makes use of thousands of vehicles. More, too, is done simply for the sake of travelling than is ordinarily supposed; and I was often struck with the love the Chinese manifested for beautiful scenery. In addition, this route is the high road, and has branches to the south-east, west, and north-west, so that a railway traversing it would possess all the advantages of bridges, inns, markets, and provisions all ready at hand; and the plausible objection against railways, that in taking a new route they would destroy the prosperity of the towns along the old highways, would in this case be satisfactorily disposed of.

On the 5th of December, having been detained by a contrary wind longer than I had intended, I left the mouth of the Hsiang, and again entered the Han River, now increased to a mile in breadth, but in many places very shallow. Several broad channels, however, existed, with from 12 to 20 feet of water, and a pilot would easily guide a foreign steamer among the banks. After proceeding twenty-five li, some hills, forming the termination of the amphitheatre of mountains round Fan-ch'eng, were passed on the east bank, but they were in no way remarkable either for height or picturesqueness: a good building, stone of a red colour, was the only production. About two miles further, in a straight line, but double that distance by the river, a second range appeared to the north-west composed of grey sandstone, and supplying large quantities of flints and building-stone. The river was slightly narrower, about half-a-mile in breadth, but the water was deeper, and the sandbanks less frequent. It continued thus for two or three days, great tracts of sandy land sometimes a mile, sometimes half a-mile in breadth, showing the extent of the summer inundations.

It may, perhaps, be worth mentioning a slight incident which came under my notice. Floating down the river, and crowded with people of every age and sex, were two large junks; on their outside were hung various implements of husbandry, such as cartwheels, hoes, spades, and the frameworks of carts. On inquiring who these people were, I was informed they were colonists from Hu-pei, who of their own freewill, and at their own expense, were emigrating from their crowded native province to the desolate and untenanted lands of Chiang-nan. The number of individuals crammed into one ship was marvellous, seemingly leaving only just standing room for the passengers.

At a place called Sin-shui-kou, on the west bank, I went on shore; and, ascending some hills which bordered on the river in order to view the aspect of the country, I found it to consist of a series of low sandstone hills stretching some distance inland, and entirely uncultivated; where the hills ceased, however, the exuberant cultivation again commenced but the fields were smaller and the trees more numerous than is the case in the north. A strong wind blowing up the river, here half-a-mile in breadth, brought with it great numbers of junks, some of them of great size and heavily laden with goods from the south: in one reach I counted no less than eighty vessels; and as the wind died away, and the men proceeded to the shore with a long rope to drag the vessels up against the stream, it was impossible not to remark how great an opening there might be here for steam-tugs and foreign enterprise. At Nei-ho-kou was another range of hills running from north-east to south-west, high, and extending some distance. A very poor coal is procured here, called by the natives earth-coal, and of little value. As the formation of these hills is red sandstone, foreign enterprise and skill might succeed in discovering some of a better quality deeper down in the earth. The country in every place where I was able to go ashore, was, in the absence of mountains, everywhere cultivated; corn, cotton, peas, beans, and a little sugar being the ordinary crops, whilst the numbers of people which issued from small villages consisting of, perhaps, ten houses, bore testimony to the

population of the country; the people were, too, uniformly courteous, and very different to the brave population of Southern Honan.

On the 7th, I passed the town of An-lui-foo, distant from its port on the bank of the river about 40 li, and of course not visible. It was spoken of as a large place with a fair trade, and making use of the earth-coal above mentioned for manufacturing indigo vats and a coarse kind of porcelain. The river about here began to decrease in breadth, and increase in depth, being often 20, and always 12 feet deep. It flowed, too, between high mud banks, which are often artificial, as the bed of the river is here higher than the surrounding country, and requiring earthworks; for the inspection of which an official is appointed, who, if he can, during his term of office (three years), prevent an inundation, obtains his promotion.

At Sha-yang, the port of Cheng-chow, was a river which flows down from Sze-chuan, and which has been deepened by labour, thereby rendering it navigable for small boats, and saving the long round by Hankow and the Yang-tze. Numerous articles are brought down from that magnificent province, among which are sugar, paper, medicine, salt, very valuable silk, and opium. I may here mention a slight but striking incident which I noticed. Amongst several large junks floating down the stream was one with a flag at its stern having inscribed on it the characters "Ta ch'en tai tzu shao pao," one of the highest and most honourable of Chinese titles. I thought it was rather strange so poor-looking a vessel should carry so great an official, and on enquiry found it was a trick meant to evade the Custom-house dues. It is, I imagine, too obvious to escape detection, but is remarkable as showing the disrespect even high civil official titles have fallen into in China. In England, not even the most fool-hardy of Captains would venture to hoist an Admiral's pennant at his mast-head. The houses now began to be plastered with white, a fashion which continued for the rest of my journey.

At Wu-chia-hou, the port of T'een-men-hsien, a place famous for its variegated cloth sent all over the Empire, and likewise (as my boatman informed me with great impressiveness) for a living Chuan-yuang, more important in his eyes than all the cloth in the world, the river somewhat widened, but the same depth of water remained. At Hsien-tao-chen, the port of Mien-yang-chow, houses stretched for nearly a mile along the bank, and a large trade is carried on in cotton, rice, and sugar. Banks and pawn shops were likewise plentiful each of them paying 200 taels per annum to the authorities of the chou. The river was here broad and deep, being about 500 yards in breadth and with twenty feet of water. Near this place a contrary wind gave me the opportunity of going on shore, and I was surprised to find how far the country was below the level of the bed of the river, banks being required some ten feet high above the summer level of the river, and some thirty feet above that of the surrounding country. The river now became more full of junks than ever, and some Chinese gun-boats were to be met with, cleaner and better appointed, both as regards men and vessels, than is the custom with the Chinese. They had the appearance of being modelled, on a very small scale, after our own gun-boats, and had a small cannon at their bows. The men were dressed in a loose jacket and trousers.

A high official, the Governor-General of Hupei, was descending the river, and was saluted on his arrival and departure from every large town. The river still continued broad, but swifter and deeper, and remaining so as far as Han-chuan-hsien, after which place it grew narrower again with a rapid and eddying current. On the following day, the river continuing to narrow up to its debouchure into the Yang-tze, I arrived at Han-kow on the evening of the 14th of December, after a journey of exactly six weeks from my departure from Peking. The river here, lined on both sides with junks for a mile in length,—and sometimes two deep,—bespoke the immense amount of trade which descends this important stream, and bore testimony to its worth as an artery of commerce. A few words about the boating population, amongst whom I was so long, may not be out of place. Sailors are proverbial for their cleanness and love of neatness, and the Chinese boatmen seem no exception to the rule; their boats were almost universally clean and in good repair, and the men, though to our idea dirty, were yet infinitely superior to their fellow-countrymen on land. It was remarkable, too, to observe the large share their wives and daughters had in the management of the boats; women almost invariably performed the office of steering and occasionally rowed, trudging manfully about on their tiny feet. Their faces bore a happier and more cheerful expression, nor did their hard work appear to have any coarsening or degrading influence on them. The men, like other nations boatmen, were freer, more generous, and less avaricious than is usual among the Chinese, nor did they attempt by every possible means, and at every possible opportunity, to make money out of the stranger. Their food was good and plentiful; all eat meat (generally pork) once a day, and with rice, vegetables, and the constant tea, seemed to live in a

manner a poor Englishman would call well, and which compared to that of the peasant proprietor is luxury itself. Each boat is the property of its owner, generally granting its services to some hong for a certain time, and paying them a per centage on their profits. In summer none of them that can afford it do any boat-work, but live on shore and spend their time in cultivating ground bought with their savings.

Of the capacities of the Han River your Excellency will be now in a position to judge; and considering the uniform depth and breadth of the river, the great amount of traffic traversing its waters, and the fertile nature of the country through which it flows, there can, I should imagine, be no doubt that there is here a great and prosperous opening for foreign steamers, foreign goods, and the foreign ideas which eventually follow in their train. I regretted not being able to visit more of the surrounding country, but the length of time I had been on the journey did not appear to justify in me any further delay, even for so laudable an object.

With a few general remarks I will bring this Report to a conclusion. In travelling long distances through a semi-civilized country, the traveller is in expectation of accidents, and thinks himself fortunate if he escapes robbery or maltreatment, and thoroughly makes up his mind to endure a large amount of annoyance from the natives. He is of opinion that, in a country destitute of railways and telegraphs, or some other equally rapid mode of communication, advantage will be taken by the local authorities of their distance from the capital to hinder and extort money from him, and he will think himself fortunate if he is able to complete his journey. But in my case in a journey at home I could not have suffered less hindrance or annoyance. An intense curiosity and constant astonishment were everywhere visible; but no insults, no maltreatment, and, except in Southern Henan, good-humoured kindness were the universal characteristics. A great deal is at present said of the weakness of the Empire, its want of stability, and the impotence of the local officials to preserve order or ensure obedience, and it may perhaps be true; but it may confidently be stated that fifty years ago no European could have traversed England with a like impunity, whilst here in a so-called decrepid and declining Empire the wonderful organization and arrangement visible everywhere was especially remarkable. Old embassies in former days were struck with this fact, and it remains up to the present day in full working order, though with less outward magnificence. The universal cultivation has long been known to exist in China, but the cultivators of the land are not in any way remarkable either for the excellence of their dwellings, the intelligence of their appearance, or the cleanliness of their persons. Their homes, miserable hovels of mud or mud-bricks, with a single room, in which husband, mother, son, and daughter are huddled together, bespeaks no trace of any hope of elegance or refinement; and the entire absence of anything like a landed gentry with large houses and more cultivated manners, to be an example and centre of information and refinement to their poorer neighbours, was singularly conspicuous. Happiness in anything but material matters seems impossible for them, and even that is precarious and liable to be destroyed by the first bad harvest. Their poverty was, however, often more apparent than real, many of them hoarding up their money in chests, and being of the opinion that their superfluous cash should be lavished, not on ornamenting their homes or gratifying the simple tastes of their wives and children, but on selfish debauchery in the nearest city, where I may remark every facility for vice is carefully supplied. Still the system insures order and respect for property, and their neat and careful cultivation of the ground shows that property in China, as elsewhere, begets greater attention and a more assiduous care.

It was curious to remark the almost entire ignorance the inhabitants of the various towns and villages were in with regard to foreigners and their position in China. I was generally supposed to be a European in the employment of His Imperial Majesty, and some few people who boasted of their knowledge of foreigners seemed to be entirely unaware of the presence of foreigners in Peking or of our having diplomatic intercourse with the high authorities at the capital. Most of these wiseacres mentioned Canton, and observed it was there we transacted business. Some civil and military officials who came with me from Peking scarcely seemed to know of the presence of the foreign Legations there, and one, a Prefect of Shan-tung who had been more than once residing in Peking, gravely informed me that Tseng Kwo-fan, in memorializing the Emperor on the revision of the Treaty, was cheating and humbugging (the terms he used) His Majesty. Out of sight, out of mind; and driblets of foreigners dotted about at a few sea-ports seem insufficient to enable the Chinese to understand and experience our superiority, not only in material but moral civilization. The Russians were better known and more generally respected, and I was often imagined to belong to that nation. I was always careful to allow those who wished to see any things I possessed which excited their curiosity; and our books, our papers, and the fact of our being able to read and write, were a continual

source of amusement and astonishment; and a general idea that the great English nation were brave, rather fond of war, and excessively so of trade, but not good for much else, was the prevailing opinion throughout the country through which I passed.

My Report has now arrived at its conclusion, and I trust that in mentioning, for the information of your Excellency, the nature of the country, the trade, the capabilities for foreign modes of locomotion, and the condition of the population inhabiting the various provinces I visited, that I have contrived to meet the wishes of your Excellency; and that the excessive length of the Report I have now the honour to present may be excused on account of the many subjects requiring some notice and description.

I have the honour to inclose a list of the various towns through which my road passed, and your Excellency will perceive that I entered 5 fous, 6 chous, 14 hsien, and 22 smaller places which, in England, would be, many of them, reckoned as provincial towns of some size and importance. The names of the towns bordering on the Han River I have also given; and, though only the names of 3 hsien and 2 fous are mentioned, yet it must be taken into consideration that, in most cases, the large towns are situated some distance from the banks, possessing only their ports close to the river.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. OXENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

List of Towns passed by Mr. E. C. Oxenham on his Journey from Peking to Hankow.

- November 2, 1868:—
From Peking 30 li to Chang-hsing-tien.
15 li to Leang-hsiang-hsien.
25 li to Tou-tien.
- November 3, 1868:—
25 li to Lin Li-ho-tien. A small river flows past into the Pei-ho.
25 li to Che-chow. Another river flows into the Pei-ho; and road to Shan-tung, and south-east branches off.
40 li to Ting-hsing-hsien.
10 li to Kao-pei-tien.
50 li to Pei-ho-tien. A river flowing into the Pei-ho.
- November 4, 1868:—
60 li to An-su-hsien.
50 li to Pao-ting-foo. Capital of Chihli. A river flowing east-north-east about 5 li to the north.
- November 5, 1868:—
60 li to Tang-shun-chiao.
60 li to Ching-feng-tien.
- November 6, 1868:—
40 li to Ting-chow.
20 li to Ming-yueh-tien. Country of a sandy nature, and covered with plantations of poplar, willow, and birch, cut down every three years.
60 li to Fy-cheng-i.
- November 7, 1868:—
50 li to Cheng-ting-foo. Very scantily inhabited. Iron foundry, and Roman Catholic Mission.
10 li to Shih-li-pu. Road branches off to Huai-loo and Shan-hsi.
45 li to Shun-cheng-hsien. Flourishing town with large houses.
- November 8, 1868:—
60 li to Chao-chow.
50 li to Po-hsiang-hsien. Important town for local trade.
- November 9, 1868:—
60 li to Nei-chiu-hsien. Country with poor soil and poor crops. A large town with extensive suburbs.
60 li to Shun-te-foo.
- November 10, 1868:—
60 li to Ta-hen-tien.
60 li to Han-tan-hsien. A town suffered much from rebels.
- November 11, 1868:—
55 li to Too-tsun-pu. Near here are some cotton-fields.
36 li to Su-chow.
14 li to Sang-chang-ho or Feng-ko-pu. A broad river channel, in winter greater part dry, in summer overflowed.
Arrived at Province of Honan.
- November 12, 1868:—
30 li to Chang-te-foo. A large flourishing well-built city, on a river joining the En-ho, and afterwards Pei-ho.
20 li to Wei chia-ying. Country here is a series of downs. Sail wheelbarrows much used.
30 li to Tang-yin-hsein.
30 li to Ni-kou-I.

- November 13, 1868:—
 60 li to Chi-hsien. The Hsi-shan arrived in sight again.
 50 li to Wei-hui-foo. A large town on the Wei River, flowing past into Tai-yuan-foo.
- November 14, 1868:—
 50 li to Hsin-hsiang-hsien. Road to Shan-hsi here branches off.
 50 li to Kang-tsun-I. Embankment commences.
- November 15, 1868:—
 60 li to the Huang-ho. Many hills on south bank of the river.
 10 li to Hsing-chai-hsien. Country hilly and wooded.
- November 16, 1868:—
 50 li to Cheng-chow. Small fields and orchards of tsao-trees.
 60 li to Kuo-tien-I. Passed a chart range north-east to south-west called Tai-chan.
- November 17, 1868:—
 45 li to Hsin-cheng-hsien. Another range of low hills, and small river running into Yellow River.
 60 li to Shih-ku.
- November 18, 1868:—
 50 li to Yin-chiao.
 45 li to Hsiang-cheng-hsien. Range of hills to the south of town having red freestone quarries, and a river flowing into Yang-tsze.
- November 19, 1868:—
 40 li to Ju-fen-chiao.
 60 li to Chin-hsien. Country flatter.
- November 20 and 21, 1868:—
 50 li to Poo-shu.
 40 li to Yu-chow. Range of hills in neighbourhood.
- November 22, 23, and 24, 1868:—
 40 li to Shih-chia-tienrh. A very flourishing town.
 Here I struck the small Han River.
- In all, 2,040 li of land journey, or 680 miles, and 1,560 of water travelling, or 520 miles; 1,200 miles in all.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

LIST of Places on the Banks of the Han River passed by Mr. E. C. Oxenham.

- November 25 and 26, 1868:—
 Shih-chia-tienrh 70 li to Yuan-tai. Narrow stream, and full of banks.
- November 27 and 28, 1868:—
 20 li to Tang-hsien. Country covered with low bare hills.
- November 29, 1868:—
 60 li to Kuo-chia-tau. Country cultivated. A range of hills on the east branch of the river.
- November 30, 1868:—
 40 li to Tsang-tai. Cormorants used for fishing. Country much cultivated, and growing several kinds of root-crops.
 Arrived at the Province of Hupei.
- December 1, 1868:—
 40 li to Yen-chia-pu-hou.
- December 2, 1868:—
 25 li to Chen-chia-ho. Yellow peas, root-crops, chih-un, and ginger grown here.
 35 li to Shuang-hou.
- December 3 to 5, 1868:—
 60 li to Fan-cheng. A large town, and flourishing.
 Hsiang-yang-foo. Not in such good repair. Hills all round.
- December 5, 1868:—
 15 li to Toong-chi-wan. Several ranges of hills bordering on banks, and the river broad and deep, about half a mile broad and 12 feet deep.
 150 li to Sin-chia-chi.
- December 6, 1868:—
 40 li to Hsiao-ho. Great stretches of land on both sides, in summer overflowed.
 30 li to Yi-cheng-hsien.
 40 li to Sin-shin-hou. Hills of red and yellow sandstone.
 20 li to Feng-ho-ho.
- December 7, 1868:—
 45 li to Nei-ho-hou. A range, high and long, with poor coal.
 55 li to An-lin-foo. A town reported to have some manufactures.
 60 li to Shih-pei. River about 400 yards broad and 25 feet deep.
- December 8, 1868:—
 60 li to Chio-hou. River begins to be above level of country.
 40 li to Sha-yang. Part of Cheng-men-chow; and a river deepened by labour flows down from Sze-chuan.
 30 li to To-pu-wan.
- December 9, 1868:—
 35 li to Nieh chia-tau. River continuing about 400 yards broad and 15 to 20 feet deep.
 30 li to Chai-hou.
 20 li to Chang-chia-hou.
 30 li to Hei-mu-tu.
 40 li to Yueh-chia-hou. Port of Tien-meu-hsien.
- December 10, 11, and 12, 1868:—
 120 li to Hsien-tae-chen. Port of Mien-yang-chow.

December 13, 1868:—

60 li to Mang-mang-tsei. River branches through country.
120 li to Han-chuan-hsien.

December 14, 1868:—

60 li to Yu-hou. River continues to increase in depth and decrease in width as far as Hankow.
60 li to Tsai-tien.
60 li to Hierh-tang.
60 li to Han-hou-chen.

(Signed) E. C. OXENHAM.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate, Hankow.

No. 4.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 22, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th April, inclosing a Report you have received from Mr. Oxenham of his journey overland from Peking to Hankow; and I have to instruct you to convey to Mr. Oxenham my approval of his proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 5.

Consul Markham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 1.)

My Lord,

Che-foo, April 29, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Report to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking of a journey just undertaken by me through the province of Shan-tung, as an Appendix to my Report on the trade of this port forwarded in my despatch to your Lordship of the 12th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MARKHAM.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Report by Consul Markham of a Journey through the Province of Shan-tung.

CONCEIVING it to be imperative on a Consul to make himself personally acquainted with the district within which he resides, and its resources, I took advantage of a season when my presence was not much needed at this port to make a tour of inspection through the province of Shan-tung, visiting most of the important cities, and all the silk-growing districts. I was further induced to make the journey at this time as suggestions were being sought for regarding the opening of new ports to foreign trade, and I therefore made a point of visiting the city of Kyan-chow, named in the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce Memorial, and the principal harbours on the south coast of the province.

I have now the honour of reporting fully on this journey, dividing my Report into the following heads, viz.: description of the cities and their trade; roads, rivers, and means of communication; products and manufactures; remarks on officials and people.

I must preface my Report by expressing how indebted I am to the Rev. Mr. Williamson, who accompanied me during a great part of my journey, for his valuable assistance, rendered with so much cheerfulness and kindness. His great knowledge of the language, and his experience in the north of China, rendered his services most valuable.

On the 24th of February I started from Che-foo, and, taking a south-easterly course, passed through the Tsehya valley, a district in which is largely cultivated the aïlanthus silk (*Saturnia cynthia*), so ably described by the late Consul Meadows in his Report of the port of New-chwang. This district is mountainous, but the valleys are most fertile, and produce a considerable amount of cotton. The hill sides have patches, or small plantations, of the stunted oak, on the leaves of which the wild silkworm feeds.

On the 26th February we arrived at the city of Lai-yang, latitude 37° , longitude $127^{\circ} 5'$. This is a walled city, with a population of about 50,000, including the suburbs, which are large. The walls are in good repair, and the city (but more especially the suburbs) has a thriving, busy appearance. All the principal shops are in the latter, as well as the looms where the aïlanthus silk is manufactured into the strong cloth known as pongee. The wax from the la-shu-tse a small insect which feeds on the leaves of the la-shu, is also made here; and all the gold from the neighbouring streams finds a market in this city. Across the main streets of Lai-yang are some pai-lows, or monumental arches; the streets themselves are broad, and well paved and drained.

Leaving this city, and still proceeding south-south-east through an extensive and highly cultivated plain which trends away to the south-west and north-west through Shan-tung and Chibli, we arrived the next day at the seaport of Kiu-kia, about 90 li from Lai-yang. This is an unwallèd town with a population of about 2,500. It is situated on the south side of a small range of hills having three conical tops, and running down to the water's edge. The harbour runs north-east and south-west, and is a safe anchorage, but no vessel of deep draught can come nearer to the port than two miles and a-half, owing to a mud or sand-flat which runs out to the channel, and is quite dry at low water. Small flat-bottomed junks are used for discharging cargoes from the large ones; these come over the bank at high water, and are left high and dry close to the town when the tide ebbs. Kiu-kia has evidently been a port of considerable importance, but the opening of Yentai (Chefoo) as a Treaty port has drawn off nearly all the trade. The place has suffered much from rebels who occupied it in 1867; a number of the best houses are in ruins, and others quite deserted.

The little trade that is now carried on is in junks from the southern ports, which bring foreign goods, cotton, poles, &c., from Shanghae, Ningpo, and Foo-chow. Little or no exports are now taken from this. There is another small harbour marked on the chart, Lukia, some sixty li north-east of Kiu-kia, but the same objection applies to it, namely, the extent of mud bank between the shore and the anchorage.

From Kiu-kia our route lay nearly due south, through the same fertile plain with the Lao-shan, a high range of mountains stretching to the east of us. This range is famed for its temples, many hundreds being scattered over it: these are visited by pilgrims in great numbers, about the third and fifth month of the year. The priests derive a large income from the sale of precious stones, which are found in great abundance, and of various kinds, amethysts predominating. Medicine roots and herbs are also found in these hills; amongst others, rhubarb. Gold is also plentiful, but mining is prohibited.

The next city we reached was that of Tsimi, a wallèd hsien of the second class, having a population of about 18,000, including the suburbs. The principal shops are in the suburbs, the city itself presenting a very poor appearance, although there are numerous handsome pai-lows across the principal streets. The district of which Tsimi is the hsien, is 160 li north and south, and 100 east and west, and has a population of 150,000. The chief products of the district are pigs (over 200,000 being exported annually), fruit, bean cake, pulse, oil, animal wax, and willow baskets. The port of Tsimi is New-kow, on the sea-shore, Tsimi being sixty li inland and north of it. I visited this sea-port, and found it to be a small unwallèd town, with about 3,000 inhabitants, containing warehouses of large dimensions. The harbour is a safe one, running north and south; but here again the land and mud bank extends from one and-a-half to two miles from the shore, and is perfectly dry at low water.

We now travelled south-west, and on the 3rd March arrived at the port of Kyan-chow, latitude 36° , longitude $120^{\circ} 10'$. Some twenty-five li from this city we crossed the Ta-ko river, which once formed the mouth of a canal that was attempted, in order to take the southern grain-junks to Peking, without having to round the Shan-tung promontory; it was to have gone through the province to Lai-chow, but insuperable difficulties prevented its completion. Kyan-chow is in a dead plain; the country, as far as the eye can reach, is perfectly flat. The walls of the city are in good repair, and have three gates well protected by bastions. The suburbs are extensive, and are also wallèd,—a work lately completed, and only after the suburbs had been nearly destroyed by rebels. The city is full of large houses, the residences of wealthy gentry and literati. There are numerous warehouses in the city, but they did not appear to me to be in use. Kyan-chow bears evidence of having once been a city of considerable importance; but at the present time there seems to be no business whatever doing there. It received all its supplies from the sea; but now, owing in a great measure to the filling up of the harbour, and probably also to the opening of Che-foo, the trade has greatly fallen off. Kyan-chow is at least eighteen miles from the anchorage. Ta-po-tui, the port of the city, is distant from it six miles, and is eight miles up a creek, which is nearly dry at low water.

Junks anchor in the channel, and their cargoes are brought up in flat-bottomed boats at high water, which are left high and dry when the tide goes out. Between the mouth of the creek and the anchorage extends a mud bank for nearly four miles, which is also quite dry when the tide is low. Ta-po-tui is considered very unhealthy by the Chinese: it is situated in a marshy plain, full of lagoons, and fever and ague are consequently very prevalent. Only a few fishermen reside at this port. The little trade that is now carried on here is between Shanghai and Ningpo, and consists principally in pigs, fruit, and pulse, bean cake, and oil exported, foreign goods and opium imported. Kyan-chow and suburbs contain a population of about 60,000. The district is 180 li north and south, and 95 east and west, containing about 200,000 souls.

From Kyan-chow our route lay west and by north, through an undulating and highly-cultivated plain, watered by the Rivers Wen and Wei, which have their sources in the Yeshan mountains, about 200 li to the west of our route. This plain is studded with small towns and large villages, and innumerable orchards of pear, apple, and plum trees; the walnut, chestnut, and persimmon trees, I also noticed in abundance, while the fine silver poplar towering above all others, helped much to enhance the beauty of the country. We only passed one walled city, that of Kau-mi, prettily situated in a sort of wooded basin, the plain rising above it on all sides. The walls were in good repair, and some two miles in circumference. It differs little from other Chinese cities; with the suburbs it contains some 10,000 people. A great deal of tobacco is grown in the vicinity, and brought to Kau-mi, where it is packed in bales, and distributed throughout the country. The animal wax is also made here.

On the 6th of March we reached the large and important city of Wei-hsien, taking on our road the great coal-fields which lie to the south-west of the city. Under the heading of coal I shall describe these. Wei-hsien, a walled city, is in latitude $36^{\circ} 40'$, longitude $119^{\circ} 10'$. It is a first class hsien, inclosed by high substantial walls, 8 miles in circumference, and surrounded by a deep moat. The ramparts are 50 feet high, and 12 feet broad on the top, with guard-houses all round at every 30 yards. The gates are protected by bastions; but the north gate has also a strong square tower built of stone, just outside the moat and facing it, two stories in height, with two tiers of ports for guns. The city has some very fine shops, and is full of large private dwellings surrounded by high walls, the residences of the gentry, literati, and wealthy merchants. The suburbs are extensive, but the northern and eastern suburbs are the largest: all the warehouses are situated here, where the business of the place is chiefly carried on. Separated from the city by the Pih-tang River is a portion of the eastern suburbs inclosed in a high wall, and which forms a city of itself. Wei-hsien is one of the large emporium cities of the province, the entrepôt for most of the merchandize landed at Che-foo. It has extensive iron foundries, and great quantities of hardware are made here and distributed throughout the province. The population of Wei-hsien, including suburbs, is over 100,000, while the district, of which it is the chief city, contains quite 200,000, exclusive of the city itself.

Twenty-five miles north-east of Wei-hsien, and on the sea-coast, is the small port of Kia-ying; the harbour is shallow and exposed to the north, but I heard that numerous junks are laden with coal and other products of the district at this place.

Tsing-chow-foo was the next city of importance which we visited. It is only 140 li west of Wei-hsien, and is the centre of the largest silk-producing district of the province. It has extensive suburbs, and contains, including these, a population of 70,000, at the lowest computation. The walls are high and in good repair; the whole being surrounded by a moat, which to the west of the city is formed by a natural stream. The city is most prettily situated in an undulating plain at the foot of a high range of mountains rising to the west and south-west. It is the centre of a large local trade, and is considered by the Chinese the wealthiest city in the province, and the plain, which trends away to the north-west and north-east, the most fertile. Besides other fine temples, there is a large Mahometan mosque in the city, with a school attached, where children are taught Arabic. There are over 12,000 Mahometan Chinese in this city. The populous part of the city is the north-east and south-east; the rest is all cultivated, and the land rises to a level with the top of the wall between the south and west gates.

Tsing-chow-foo was formerly the capital of Shan-tung, and the old Tartar city still exists about $1\frac{1}{2}$ li to the north-west. It is inhabited by a garrison of about 2,000 Tartar troops.

From Tsing-chow-foo our course lay west to Chi-chuan-hsien; between these two cities we passed numerous mulberry tree plantations, and as we neared the latter the road was much impeded by carts, wheelbarrows, mules, &c., laden with coal and coke from the Lan-foo or Po-shan valley: we were often delayed for some time by the road being blocked up with traffic.

Chi-chuan-hsien, a walled town at the entrance of the Lan-foo valley, has a population of about 30,000, including the suburbs, which are extensive. This is the great *dépôt* for the coal from the Po-shan mines, situated about 40 li down the Lan-foo valley; along this distance we passed villages every 8 li, in each of which were large yards full of coke and coal. Down the centre of the valley, and close past the city of Chi-chuan, runs the Lan-foo-ho, a clear stream of no great depth, but very rapid. The valley runs north and south, and the coal-pits lie on both sides of it. Forty li from Chi-chuan are the walled cities of Po-shan and Yen-shing, separated from each other only by the stream above-named, which is about 100 yards broad, but at this time the breadth of water was not more than 30 yards. These two cities contain a population of about 35,000 inclusive; they are most beautifully situated, the walls of the former run over one of the hills which is prettily wooded. This valley, besides coal, produces silver, lead, iron, different sorts of valuable clays, and a lilac stone similar in appearance to granite, from which is manufactured glass in large quantities. Po-shan contains extensive potteries, three different kinds of ware being manufactured—the fine straw-coloured porcelain, the common red ware, and a peculiar shining black ware, very light, that looks like metal (lead), and is valued in districts where fuel is dear, in consequence of its rapid heating qualities. The red paving tile and the large red water kongs are also made here. Yen-shing has extensive glass manufactures of which foreigners are little aware. I was much surprised at the quantity and excellent quality of the glass, a description of which I will give under the proper heading.

Chang-kin-hsien, a city on the high road and just 100 li from the capital, is of little note; it contains a population of about 10,000, has some good shops in the suburbs, but very little trade, and is unimportant except as a place of call for carts, &c., for Tsinan-foo.

On the 15th of March I arrived at Tsinan-foo, the capital of Shan-tung, in latitude $36^{\circ} 50'$, longitude 117° , a large and very important city inclosed in high walls, and having extensive suburbs which are again surrounded by well-built strong walls 60 li in circumference; a mud wall surrounds the whole, making a circumference of at least 85 li. The city lies at the foot of a high range of mountains on the south-east of the city, while the plain slopes away to the north, towards the Yellow River. The city is full of springs of fine water. The streets are broad and well paved, the shops good and well-stocked with nearly every description of goods, amongst which were noticeable many of European manufacture. The street from east to west gate is quite two and a-half miles long, and full of fine shops. Besides several large temples and examination halls, this city contains the palace of the Viceroy, and the *yamèn* of the Fantae (Treasurer), Nietai (Judge), and the Chief Examiner (Hectai), and several others of superior officials. All these buildings are situated in extensive and well-wooded grounds. There is a new Roman Catholic Cathedral, and the Bishop of Shan-tung resides in the city. I am indebted to this gentleman, M. Cosi, for much information, and for the great kindness with which he treated me. He has two schools and two orphanages, one about three miles outside the city. The number of Roman Catholic converts in this province are about 12,000. Tsinan-foo is also the head-quarters of the Mahometans of the province; they have a large mosque in the western suburbs and another in the north part of the city. We were told that there were over 20,000 Mahometans here. About 10 li to the east of the city is a hill one mass of iron ore; I picked up some pieces on the surface so magnetic as to affect my compass held some distance off.

The north-east part of the city is very low and damp and considered extremely unhealthy; by scraping a few inches below the surface water is obtained. The plain between the city and the New Yellow River, a distance of 16 li, is continually inundated; last year the water came up to the city walls, where it was three feet deep. I visited the old port of Tsinan-foo, Ku-kow, six miles from the city. It bears traces of having once been a very fine and important place, but it is now in ruins; fine two-storied houses and large warehouses falling to pieces,—this is owing to the floods in a great measure and also to the fact of the rebels having occupied the place more than once. The New Yellow River, formerly the Ta-tsing-ho, is, at Fukien, about 350 yards broad from bank to bank; but the breadth of water at this time not more than 200 yards. The stream appeared very rapid. I saw no junks of any large size upon it. Lu-kow has been given up, and Tsi-tung, a port about 100 miles to the east, substituted for it.

From Tsinan-foo our route lay south along the west foot of the Tae-shan range to the city of Taingan-foo, distant about 160 li from the capital. On this road is a great deal of traffic, the high Imperial road from Nanking to Peking joining the Tsinan-foo road, about 30 li south of that city. A quantity of hemp and tobacco is grown in this vicinity. All the villages and small unwalled towns which we passed bore evidence of

having suffered from the effects of civil war; but we were everywhere told that the Imperialist soldiers did more damage to the places than the rebels, for when the latter had merely taken possession of a place without opposition, they would leave it again in the state in which they found it; but the Imperialists would be sure then to wreak their vengeance on it, on the plea that the inhabitants favoured the rebels.

Taingan-foo, a walled city containing, with suburbs, about 45,000 inhabitants, is situated at the foot of the Taishan, the Sacred Mountain of China, and the highest of the range that runs between this and Tsinan-foo. In the north part of the city is a handsome temple dedicated to the mountain. It is situated in extensive and thickly-wooded grounds. To this temple resort all the pilgrims who, from all parts of the Empire, visit this mountain; while we were here there must have been upwards of 70,000 people collected in the grounds all strangers to the city. A fair is continually being held here. The city is a perfect square of about four miles, it contains some good and well-stocked shops. The streets are badly paved and badly drained. Taingan is the centre of a large silk district; tobacco and hemp is also grown in large quantities: the tobacco is considered the finest in the province.

The country between Taingan-foo and Kiu-foo is an undulating plain and highly cultivated, containing numerous orchards of date and other fruit trees. It is watered by the Ta-wan-kow, a broad stream, but not navigable. This country is full of historical interest, as being the country of Confucius. Numerous fine bridges and arches are met with, but all falling into decay.

Kiu-foo, the city of Confucius, where dwells his representative, a Kungyih, or Duke of the Empire, is a city of no commercial importance, but it may be called the historical city of China. Here the sage was educated, lived, taught, and finally died, and was buried. His birth-place—a cave—is in the Ne-shan hills, some twenty li to the north-east. The whole of the north and west of the city is taken up the grounds of the ducal palace and temple to Confucius, spacious and splendidly wooded. The temple is a building on a far more magnificent scale than any I have seen in China. Here are numerous relics of the sage, some of the bronze censers, &c., bearing date B.C. 2300. The city has a population of about 25,000, which is composed chiefly of descendants of Confucius, eight out of ten families bearing his surname. The office of Che-shien or Magistrate is hereditary in the family, as are also all the official appointments. When the rebels occupied the surrounding country, they spared the city and Mandarins, declaring that they only wished to destroy the unjust and corrupt rulers, but that Confucius' descendants could not be so.

Tsin-hsien, Mencius' city, is only fifty li from Kiu-foo, just half-way on the high road between Nanking and Peking. It is prettily situated at the foot of a range of hills which have a place in Chinese history. The city appears to be a poor place. The suburbs are full of shops and inns, but none of any importance. It contains a population of about 10,000, principally descendants of Mencius. The temple to Mencius, and the residence of the Potsze, or representative of the family, are outside the south gate. He, like the representative of Confucius, receives a large pension from Government: but although a member of the Han-lin College—which honour is hereditary in the family,—he holds no rank such as Duke, like Confucius' representative.

At this place I parted with the Rev. Mr. Williamson, who proceeded south by the Grand Canal to Chin-kiang and Nanking, while I took an easterly course back through the province, for the purpose of visiting certain silk districts in that line of country. My route lay at first through an extensive valley, with the Yu-shan range to the north, and the Chiang-shan to the south. Coal, I heard, was plentiful in the last-named hills; but there are no pits opened now. The country here is very similar to that of the Po-shan Valley.

The first city that I passed of any importance, was that of Sze-shui, a walled hsien on the banks of the Szeho,—a river of great historical interest, and said to be famous for precious stones. Sze-shui contains a population of about 10,000 inhabitants. Much silk is produced in this vicinity, both the mulberry and oak. In the city are manufactured silk piece goods, but in no very great quantity. Outside the city is a large temple in honour of Tsze-loo, one of Confucius' favourite disciples, who was killed in battle with rebels—a death predicted by the sage.

The River Sze-ho, along which I travelled for some time, is of considerable depth and 200 yards broad on an average of ten miles. It is not, however, navigable owing to enumerable sandbanks which occur everywhere, rendering the stream in some places not a foot deep; these banks are shifting, and the river is gradually filling up. The country I now travelled through for the next four days was very mountainous, and the first city I came to was that of Mong-yin-hsien in latitude $30^{\circ} 55'$, longitude $118^{\circ} 5'$. It is situated

in a valley at the east foot of the Pou-yu-shan range I had just traversed. I noticed large plantations of the stunted oak on the side of the hills around this city. It has a population of about 15,000. The principal business of the place is in salt, for which the city is a depôt. I noticed some very large salt warehouses, and there appeared to be a large trade in it going on. Besides the wild silk, there is a good deal of mulberry silk produced about this vicinity. I passed several large mulberry plantations. Yc-shui-hsien is a small walled city on the banks of the Ye-ho. The city itself is very small; but the suburbs are large and populous, and contain some good shops. A large trade seemed to be conducted here in beancake and pulse oil. The population of the city and suburbs is between 18,000 and 20,000.

I now crossed my outward route at Wei-hsien, and taking a north-east course, reached the city of Lai-chow on the sea-coast.

The only two cities of importance that I now passed through were those of Lai-chow and Hwang-hsien, the great entrepôt and distributing centre for the merchandize landed at Chefoo, a description of which, as well as of this part of the country to Chefoo, I have already given in my Report of October 14, 1868.

Roads.—The cart-roads through the province, and other bye-roads, have at one time been most admirable, but for years past have been allowed to fall into decay lamentable to see. During the dry weather they are pretty good, but after heavy rains almost impassable. Fine bridges over small streams are in ruins, and replaced by rafts of kao-liang stalks covered with earth. The road between Kyao-chow and Wei-hsien is, on the average quite 30 feet broad, and with very little expense might be made a perfect road. Although means of repairing are at hand—quantities of stone everywhere, and labour as cheap as possible—no repairs are ever made, and the consequence is that it is gradually becoming simply a track through the country. It is marked by tablets here and there, showing when and by what Mandarin it was last repaired, but we did not notice a single tablet of late date. Only in the vicinity of some of the large cities a little attention has been paid to them. At nearly every ten li along the main roads are good inns, and every convenience for travelling.

The country is admirably adapted for railways. The greater part is a plain, and where mountain ranges occur there are always wide valleys through which lines could be carried with great ease and slight expense. As the high roads lead direct through the most populous districts to the great cities, their line would be the best guide, as they invariably avoid all the natural difficulties.

Rivers.—There is no water communication in Shantung. No river, except the Ta-tsing-ho, now the New Yellow River, is navigable for any distance into the province. The Wei-ho, the Siaou, Tsing-ho, and one or two other streams which empty themselves into the Gulf of Peichili, can be navigated by small flat boats for about 20 to 40 li from the mouth, but not beyond this, and there is not a river in the province worthy the name. The Ta-tsing-ho is the new course the Yellow River has taken. It is crossed by the Grand Canal nearly half-way between the towns of Tong-chang and Tong-ping, about 100 li from the borders of the Province of Peichili. There is no doubt that for Chinese boats this river is navigable, but I much doubt from all I heard whether it would not be too dangerous for steamers, owing to the shifting nature of the bottom. New sand banks are continually being formed, and every year the banks are overflowed, and the country for miles round inundated; sometimes these floods occur twice a-year.

The means of traffic along the roads are carts, wheelbarrows, camels, mules, and donkeys. The carts carry six to twenty piculs and are drawn, the large ones by five mules and the smaller ones by two; one in the shafts, the others as leaders in a row. Wheelbarrows carry from two to ten piculs, and are propelled by one man pushing, another in front in a sort of shafts, and a donkey, ox, or mule in front of all, attached by traces of rope. For the man behind, who has to push, guide, and support the whole weight on his shoulders, the work is terrific, and seemed to me to be the very acme of human labour. These men seldom reach the age of 40 years, I was told. A camel carries from 3 to 500 catties. In some districts these beasts are only allowed to travel by night, as ponies and mules will not pass them on the road. A mule carries about 400 catties, a donkey about 200 catties. The hire of carts is from 1 tael to 2 taels per diem; but the more general way is to charge for the goods by weight between two places; those between Hwang-hsien and Wei-hsien, a distance of 300 li, the charge by cart is from 800 to 900 cash, or, say, 70 to 80 cents per picul.

Products of the Country.—*Silk.* A very great deal more silk, both from the mulberry, or domestic worm, and from the oak, or wild worm, is produced in Shantung than is generally imagined. From the former is obtained the beautiful yellow and white silk, and from the latter the coarse brown silk, from which is made the strong durable cloth known

as ponjee. The principal districts for the growth of the mulberry trees are around Tsing-chow-foo, particularly to the east of that city, about 40 li, at a place called Liu-kiu, and in the vicinity of the cities of Tsi-nan-foo, Taingan-foo, Po-shan-hsien, and Ye-shui; while the oak tree plantations are in the districts of Ninghai and Tsi-hea, in the east of the province, and the district between the cities of Tsing-chow-foo and Mong-yin-hsien, in the centre of the province. At Tsing-chow-foo, upwards of 1,000 families are employed manufacturing silk piece goods; plain, and flowered pieces of very fine texture are produced from these looms. These pieces are 20 yards by 14 inches broad. Silk piece goods are also manufactured at Tsi-nan-foo and Taingan-foo. All the silk produced in the province is taken to the capital of Shensi and Shan-hsi.

None can be purchased except through a person called a middle-man, who is responsible to the local authorities, and has to report to the magistrate every sale that is made. At Tsing-chow-foo we were told that when it is known or supposed that the purchaser is doing business for Yentai the squeezes on the silk are immediately doubled. Foreigners, therefore, cannot purchase silk with any chance of making a profit. It amounts absolutely to a prohibition of the sale of that article for the foreign market. The merchants we spoke to at that city, and also at Taingan-foo, said that they would be perfectly willing to sell to foreigners direct, at a fair price, provided they were allowed to do so.

The late Consul Meadows and Mr. Major have published a very full Report on the ailanthus silkworm of Manchuria; this same silk is manufactured into cloth in this province, from the raw material produced in the districts I have already named, as well as from much which is imported from Manchuria. These goods are in demand here, and at the first opening of the port could be purchased at reasonable rates; but the ruinous prices now asked for them, render their sale impossible. There is no reason whatever for this increase in price, except that alluded to above. The growers told me that silk, both the mulberry and oak, could be produced in any quantity to suit demand.

The ailanthus worm produces twice a-year; when the female has laid her second batch of eggs she dies. The male is salted and eaten by the people, and considered a great delicacy, as is also the male of the domestic worm.

There are two other descriptions of silk produced in this province, but in small quantities; one from a worm that feeds on the pepper-tree, the cloth made from which is very valuable, as no moths will touch it; and another, produced from a worm that lives on a tree called the tsow-t sien. This silk is called "seao-kien-tsau." It is of a grey colour, and coarse, but very durable, and highly valued.

Wax.—A great quantity of animal wax is made in the south-east of the province, from the excrement of an insect that feeds on the leaves of the la-shu tree. This tree grows to a considerable height, and its wood is valuable for making the crutches used for pack-saddles, and the large forks, not unlike our wooden hay-forks.

The excrement is deposited on the leaf of this tree, scraped off, boiled, and run into moulds. This wax is used for the coating of the common tallow candles, and is largely exported.

Cotton.—Cotton is grown in the east of the province, but in no great quantities, and quite insufficient for the demand; hence much is imported; principally via the Grand Canal.

Medicines.—The province produces large quantities of drugs, the most important being liquorice and rhubarb. Arrowroot is also grown to a considerable extent.

Tobacco.—Tobacco is largely cultivated throughout the province, but the best in the vicinity of Taingan-foo. I found it slightly deficient in flavour, but I attribute this chiefly to the want of care in protecting the young leaves from the rain, and in the drying of them. If more attention were paid to this I have no doubt that the tobacco of Shantung would be equal to the best.

Grain and Pulse.—Shantung is a great grain country. Wheat was springing up everywhere along our route, and when these crops are off the ground, the kao-liang or sauper and other descriptions of millet are sown, as well as beans and peas, from which are manufactured great quantities of beancake and oil.

Vermicelli is largely manufactured, and the export in this article from Che-foo alone is very large.

Felts.—Carpets and hats are manufactured from felt at Tsi-nan-foo. The former are almost equal to the Turkey carpets, and only require a little improvement in shape and size to suit the foreign market. The hats are most comfortable, and very cheap.

Straw.—Straw braids and hats are largely made in Shantung, principally in the vicinity of Laichow.

Fruit.—Fruits of every description are largely grown throughout the province, the principal being pears, apples, walnuts, apricots, cherries, dates, and persimoms. Ground-nuts are also largely cultivated, and a great deal of oil made from them.

Coal.—The principal coal-producing districts where this mineral is worked, are three, but there are several other places where coal is known to exist, but where the mining is prohibited.

The largest coal mines are in the Lan-fu-ho valley, latitude $36^{\circ} 50'$ north, extending south to latitude $36^{\circ} 30'$; longitude $117^{\circ} 56'$ east. The valley runs north and south, and has coal-pits on either side. Both bituminous and anthracite coal are extracted. Ten pits are now working near the city of Po-shan-hsien. The yield per day from one pit is about 200 piculs, and the price at pit's mouth is 180 cash a picul. Gangs of sixty men work night and day in the pits, which are from 50 to 70 feet deep, and then branch off into tunnels of 1,000 feet in length supported by rough beams of wood. The coal seam is from 6 to 15 feet thick. The men work below with picks, and the coal is brought up in baskets containing about 100 catties, by means of a windlass worked by ten men. I saw some very large pieces drawn up, one piece weighed 100 catties, and filled the basket of itself. The water is drained off below, the pits being well up on the hill side. A deep well is sunk at the foot and a drain made from the coal seam down which the water runs to the well when it is drawn up in skin buckets by a windlass.

The Government tax on these coal mines is very moderate; but the local squeezes exorbitant. A Shan-hsi merchant, who has now the working of these Po-shan mines for some years, told us that he could lay coal down in Yentai at 4 dollars 50 cents a ton, and make an excellent profit out of it, were he allowed to do so; but it is forbidden to bring a single pound of coal to this port. Many endeavours have been made by foreign merchants here to get the coal, but they have failed in every instance. Some specimens of coal which I brought home have been pronounced far superior to any native or Japan coal, and nearly equal to Cardiff. Coke of excellent quality is made at Po-shan, and costs in that city 700 cash a picul.

The Wei-hsien coal-fields are situated in an undulating plain about 20 li south-south-west of that city, with hills to the south and west six miles off. There are a great number of pits here, but only ten at present worked. The pits are from 15 to 30 feet deep; and the miners work on until the water rises over the seam. This they keep under as long as possible, bringing it up in large skin buckets containing about three gallons, by means of a huge windlass; but when it gets beyond them, they desert the pit and go to another. Thus it is probable that they miss the finest quality of coal.

We were told that there were two seams, and that they were from 4 to 15 feet thick; and, judging from the enormous blocks of coal we saw brought up, the strata must, indeed, be of great thickness. Gangs of fifty men work below all day, and are replaced by fresh gangs at night. The average quantity of coal raised is 10 baskets, containing 100 catties each basket, per man per diem. This at pit's mouth costs 60 cash a picul, while at Wei-hsien the same costs 600 cash a picul. The wages of the workmen are 150 cash per man per day.

The Wei-hsien coal is principally anthracite, burns bright and clear, with scarcely any ash, and throws out very great heat. It is in great request at Wei-hsien, for the iron foundries there. We saw thousands of tons ready to be carted off at the pit's mouth. Wei-hsien is not very far from the sea coast, and the coal might easily be brought to Chefoo in junks, and undoubtedly it would be brought in very great quantities if the authorities would only allow it.

Coal mines are also worked near the city of Ye-chow-foo, latitude $35^{\circ} 15'$ north, longitude $118^{\circ} 20'$ east. The River Yi-ho, which flows past the pits, is navigable for flat-bottom boats, and the coal could easily be conveyed to the Grand Canal, and thence to Chin-kiang. There are several other coal districts in the province; indeed, nearly the whole of Shan-tung is coal-producing, but those I have named are the principal ones.

Iron.—This metal is found in different parts of the province. Near Tung-chow very fine iron ore has been procured. I came across iron in the mountains near Mong-yin-hsien, while close to the city of Tsi-nan-foo large masses of fine magnetic ore crop up to the surface. Iron ore is said to exist within ten miles of this port.

Galena.—This ore, containing lead and silver, is common throughout the province. Near Chefoo is a lode of great richness, which has already been tested; but the working of it is prohibited. In the south of the province, towards Hae-yun, and to the west of Wei-hsien, there are veins; and at Tung-chow and Ninghai, no great distance from this port, the ore also occurs.

Copper.—I heard of this metal in different parts of the province, but I met with no specimens of the ore. I believe that some has been brought here from Chang-kia-chwang, 100 li south-west of this port.

Sulphur.—Is procured in various places throughout the province, and sulphur springs are common in Shan-tung:

Glass.—This article is largely manufactured in the Lan-foo valley, at the city of Yen-shing, close to Po-shan-hsien. There is a quarry in the immediate neighbourhood of these cities, from whence is obtained the stone which, pulverized and smelted, with nitrate of potasia, forms the glass. This stone is similar to granite, only of a beautiful lilac colour. Nearly every house in Yen-shing is either a glass manufactory or a shop where glass ware is sold. We found them blowing glass, running it into rods and plates, making window-glass, bottles, beads, lanterns, and ornaments of every description. Some very beautiful opaque bottles of different shapes and finely painted I procured here. The glass seemed extremely pure, and sold at very reasonable prices; the rods of pig-glass, about 30 inches long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, costing 30 cash a catty, or less than 1d. per lb. Saltpetre, much used in the manufacture of glass, is found in the vicinity of Po-shan-hsien.

Hemp is largely grown throughout Shantung; and the rope made from it is very good indeed.

Gold.—This precious metal is found in different places throughout the province. The great gold-bearing district is that of Pingtu latitude $36^{\circ} 50'$, $120^{\circ} 10'$ longitude, in which I had the honour to report on the 14th October, 1868. The Lau-shan range has veins of quartz-bearing gold, but these fields are not allowed to be worked. The streams near Mong-yin-hsien, in the centre of the province, yield gold; while, after heavy rains, a considerable quantity is found in the River Kiu-ko-ho, near Laiyong, washed down from the ravines and gorges in this vicinity.

In the stream of the Tsihya valley, and nearly all the streams around Ninghai, in the east part of this province are gold washings. The Chinese are allowed to obtain the dust in this manner, but are interdicted from digging. I have seen several large-sized nuggets found in the beds of these streams, washed down, I presume, from the gorges after heavy rains.

Precious Stones.—The Laou-shan hills are said to abound with precious stones. Some large amethysts have been exhibited here as obtained from these mountains.

Asbestos.—Is found near Tung-chow-foo. It is used by the natives for making fire-bricks and crucibles, &c.

Marbles, Granite, Limestone, &c.—I saw some very fine marble in different parts of the province. At the large temples at Kiu-foo, &c., the beautiful white marble pillars supporting the verandahs came from quarries of this province. There is also a black and a veined marble, which are very beautiful.

Limestone occurs everywhere, and fine granite is also most plentiful.

I will now close this Report with an account of the officials and people; and as I have had an excellent opportunity of judging of their feelings towards foreigners, I trust my remarks may carry with them some weight.

On leaving Che-foo I took care to arm myself with an official passport from the Taoutae here, and also with a Circular letter to the officials at the various towns through which I was likely to pass, stating who I was, and requesting that I might be received in a manner due to my rank. At first I made a point, on arriving at any town, to send my card in to the head Mandarin merely as a matter of courtesy; but I found that in almost every instance no notice was taken of it, except that perhaps his card was sent back in return; but this acknowledgment of my visit was not even always awarded me. Seeing this, I latterly contented myself with communicating with the officials only when I really required assistance, and I am happy to say I only had occasion to do so twice; once at Poshan-hsien, and another time at Taingan-foo, and in both cases I met with rudeness and discourtesy, such as I little expected. At Poshan-hsien the Magistrate refused to recognize the Taoutae's letter or my passport, and absolutely returned me my own card. I had sent on to him a polite request that he would be so good as to procure a lodging for me, as there were no inns in that city, and had it not been for a merchant who most kindly put his house at my disposal I would not have had any shelter whatever: while the Prefect at Taingan refused to comply with a moderate request I had to make, namely, to make a slight alteration in the passport of a friend of mine who meant to return viâ Grand Canal, instead of coming back with me; and although he sent back his own card in return for mine, would not see me, putting me off on the plea of business.

The only civility I met with was from the late Taoutae here, an official I was intimately acquainted with, who is now Judge of the province residing at Tsi-nan-foo; he certainly did receive me and returned my call. I complained to him of the manner in which I had been received, and he expressed great regret, and volunteered to send on a messenger to the different cities to notify my coming on my return route. Whether he kept his promise or not I am unable to say; but at all events it had no effect, for I was not taken the slightest notice of even after that.

At Kiu-foo I was very well received by the Representative of Confucius, a Duke of the Empire; but it must be remembered that he is not one of the ruling Mandarins, simply an independent nobleman.

The contrast to the conduct of the Mandarins was the manner in which the mercantile classes and people generally received one. At nearly every large city I passed through I was visited by influential merchants, who one and all expressed their willingness to deal with foreigners, and questioned me closely regarding steamers, railroads, and foreign inventions generally. At Poshan-hsien, a Shan-hsi merchant who had been working the coal mines there some time told me distinctly that he would be only too glad to benefit by foreign skill and experience, and would be very willing to work the mines in conjunction with foreigners were he allowed to do so. At Kyan-chow some very influential merchants called upon us, and during conversation expressed a wish to see railroads introduced; they declared that such would be well received by all classes, except the Mandarins, who they admitted would oppose as long as possible any attempt to introduce foreign inventions into the country. Again, at Tsi-mi a very wealthy and respectable merchant expressed exactly the same views. I am firmly of opinion, and in spite of anything that may be said to the contrary, that it is the intention of the Chinese Government to enter upon a retrograde policy, and that they wish to curtail as much as possible their relations with foreign Powers, restricting their intercourse to within the narrowest possible limits; and I am perfectly certain that the introduction of foreign inventions, conveying new systems and new ideas into China, would not tend to shock the feelings and prejudices of the people, but, on the contrary, would have a most beneficial effect upon all classes.

Were the local mandarins really well-disposed towards us they would have treated an official of a friendly Power on a visit through their country in a far different manner, and I am convinced that these local authorities have their cue from the Central Government.

In proof of the feelings of the people of this province, at all events towards us, I am glad to be able to state that throughout my journey I scarcely heard an opprobrious epithet used, although I passed through many large cities and towns never before visited by a European, and was many times in dense crowds at fairs, where people were collected from all parts of the country. On the contrary, I was everywhere treated by the middle classes and people with the greatest possible kindness and civility.

In conclusion, I must again express how much I am indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Mr. Williamson for his valuable services as Interpreter, and for the assistance he so willingly rendered me in collecting information on all points.

(Signed) J. MARKHAM, *Consul*.

British Consulate, Che-foo, April 21, 1869.

No. 6.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Markham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of April, inclosing an account of your recent journey through Shantung, and I have to acquaint you that I have read your Report with much interest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 7.

Sir H. Parkes to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 22.)

(Extract.)

Yokohama, January 26, 1869.

MY despatches reporting the opening of Yeddo on the 1st instant will have shown that Dr. Willis returned from the humane mission in which he had voluntarily engaged, in time to enter on his duties as Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Yeddo on that date.

I have now the satisfaction of forwarding to your Lordship a Report of his expedition, which he has drawn up since his return. He therein disposes of his own labours in a few brief lines, confining himself to little more than stating that he has administered to the relief of 1,600 suffering fellow-men; but his proceedings show that he has spared no pains, whenever opportunity offered, to humanize the practice of the Japanese

in regard both to their mode of warfare and the treatment of their prisoners; and the influence he exercised is proved by the fact that the Prince Commanding-in-chief the Mikado's forces invited him to proceed to Wakamatsu, the stronghold of Aidzu, directly it was taken, and nearly 700 of the patients he attended, belonged to the Aidzu clan.

According to Dr. Willis' observations, the population of the country which came under his observation appears to be in proportion to the existing means of subsistence; but it is satisfactory to notice the capacity of the country for that most valuable industry—the growth of silk, and to learn that in places to which the influence of foreign trade has extended a remarkable impetus has been given to the production of this staple, and that the good efforts of increased means are clearly observable in the improved condition of the people.

I should add that the Mikado has directed the Minister of Foreign Affairs to express to me his appreciation of Dr. Willis' services in the inclosed note, which was accompanied by the present of silk therein named.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Memorandum by Dr. Willis on the subject of his Visit to Takata, Kashiwasaki, Neegata, Shibata, and Wakamatsu, to render Medical Assistance to Wounded Japanese.

I ATTENDED personally to the requirements of 600 wounded men, and gave directions regarding the treatment of about 1,000 others.

Of these numbers 900 were of the Mikado's army and 700 of the Aidzu clan.

I performed thirty-eight amputations, varying in magnitude from removal of a finger to amputation of the thigh at the hip-joint. Of those operated upon, about one-half recovered. I extracted twenty-three bullets, and removed dead bone from upwards of 200 patients. The wounds were almost exclusively gun-shot injuries. I saw a few instances of spear wounds and sword cuts, but no instance of a bayonet wound.

As far as time and other circumstances would permit I instructed the native doctors in the treatment of the wounded.

I found the sick men of the Mikado's army lodged in temples at the various stations I visited. They were provided with all the ordinary wants of Japanese, and appeared to be cared for as far as could be expected, considering the imperfect discipline and want of knowledge that exist amongst the native doctors and attendants.

The wounded men of the Aidzu clan were lodged in seven villages around the chief town Wakamatsu. When I first visited them they were in a deplorable state of filth and wretchedness, and excepting a ration of rice, nothing else was allowed them. By representing their condition to the authorities at Wakamatsu I was enabled to obtain necessary supplies, and was assured at the same time that for the future the wants of the sick would be regularly provided for. The wounded of the Aidzu clan included old men, women, and children.

I made out lists of the sick of the Mikado's army that might return to their homes before the severe winter set in. During next spring, all the sick will return to their respective provinces. They were to be assembled from the various stations to pass the winter at Kashiwasaki.

On my journey from Yeddo to Takata an incident occurred which illustrates a difficulty that may attend a foreigner travelling in Japan, even when his journey is undertaken at the instance of the Japanese Government. About twenty miles from Takata there is a mountain-pass with a guard-house under the charge of the local Daimio. On my attempting to pass through this barrier, as I had already done through other barriers, several of the guards rushed out, and in a loud and menacing tone of voice ordered me to take off my hat, and by placing hands on my shoulders attempted to force me into making obeisances. I disengaged myself from the hands of the guards and passed through without making the obeisances which it was attempted to force me into. I demanded an apology from the chief of the guards for the conduct of his subordinates, and the permission to pass unmolested through the barrier. I could, however, obtain no redress. The chief of the guards justifying the conduct of his subordinates, I declined to proceed any farther on my journey until I received the satisfaction demanded, and sent a letter to that effect to Takata. The following night two officials arrived from Takata. They expressed the regret of the Daimio at the treatment I had received. The chief of the guards was called upon to make a formal apology to me. The next morning I passed

through the barrier a second time, to establish my right of doing so, when a second apology was tendered in front of the guard-house. I hereupon expressed my satisfaction, and requested that no further steps should be taken in the matter, as I considered the rudeness shown me arose in a great measure out of ignorance. I have reason since to know that the chief of the guards is grateful to me for interceding on his behalf, otherwise he would have lost his position for his conduct on the occasion. With characteristic heroism he had expressed his readiness,—should it be found that in the zealous discharge of his duties he had overstepped the bounds of propriety,—to put an end to his existence by harakiri or disembowelling.

At Shibata I was called upon by a Karo or Councillor, who thanked me in the name of his Daimio for my services to his master's retainers. At Neegata, one of the chief officials administering the government of the place paid me a complimentary visit. At Shibata, a Karo of the Daimio of that place and a retainer of his Imperial Highness Ninwaji no Miya, the Commander-in-chief of the Mikado's army, visited me and expressed, in the name of their respective masters, their obligation to me for the services I had rendered.

I had occasion frequently to observe the significant absence of wounded prisoners, and, as often as opportunity served, I pointed out the inhumanity of a wanton sacrifice of life. I expressed my sense of disappointment at not having it in my power to bear testimony to the clemency of the Japanese Government towards its opponents in the present struggle. I was told by way of excuse that the Aidzu prisoners reviled and insulted the Mikado's authority so offensively that it was found impossible to spare even the lives of the wounded. The retainer of the Commander-in-chief promised, however, that he would state fully to his Master all that I had said regarding humanity in war and the compassion shown to wounded opponents in other countries. On the following day his Imperial Highness the Commander-in-chief sent me word that he wished to see me as soon as I had completed my attendance upon the wounded. I stipulated that, in the event of my visiting his Imperial Highness, I should observe no other ceremonies than those that would be due to the presence of a personage of similarly exalted rank in Europe.

On the occasion of the interview, the Miya sent his chief doctor and an escort to accompany me to his place of residence, which was within the castle of the Daimio of Shibata. The Miya expressed his concern for the fatigues that so long a journey must have imposed upon me. He asked me if I had anything interesting to communicate. I said that what I deemed most interesting I had already fully explained to his retainer; whereupon he remarked, "we have well considered that matter." After some complimentary and general conversation, during which inquiries were made about the wounded, I took my leave.

The Miya is twenty-four years of age, although he looks older, with an agreeable expression of countenance. Besides the Miya there were present two nobles of the Mikado's Court, the retainer of the Miya already spoken of, a Satsuma General, and the Miya's chief doctor. Shortly after my return home I received a letter written at the instance of his Imperial Highness and signed by the two nobles who were present at the interview, requesting me to continue my services for another month, to visit Kashiwasaki once more, and to render medical assistance to the wounded men of the enemy as well as to those of the Mikado's army. I explained that all I could do in the matter was to submit the letter to my Minister, whose orders I was bound to obey. In the meantime, however, until I heard from him, I would do my utmost to carry out the requests contained in the letter received, and to that end I would start the following day for Aidzu's chief town, Wakamatsu. A guard of thirty-four men of the Daimios of Shibata was ordered to accompany me. On my arrival at Wakamatsu I found that about four-fifths of the town had been burnt on the occasion of its capture by the Mikado's army. The most central buildings of Aidzu's Castle alone remained. All the dwellings of the official class included in the outer moat had been burnt. The buildings which still stood were composed of wood and plaster. They were riddled with round shot and rifle bullets. The castle was commanded, at the distance of half-a-mile, by a hill, upon the summit of which the Mikado's forces had erected a battery.

In the most central building there was an immense collection of suits of armour, old imatchlocks, spears, bows, and arrows. Out of this collection the soldiers of the Mikado's army appeared to select such articles as they fancied. I was told that some of the suits of armour were over three hundred years old. I found by experiment that a rifle bullet would pass through the strongest helmet, though proof against revolver shots. Judging by the size of the oldest armour there is no degeneration in Japan of the physique of the soldier class within the last 300 years.

Along my journey I had occasion to observe the immense extent of hilly country as compared with plain land. Judging by what I have seen of the main island of Japan generally, I am of opinion that more than five-sixths of it are covered with hills, which often assume the proportions of lofty mountains. In some places the hills are clothed with timber, but, as a rule, they are bare, giving to the landscape an appearance of dreary grandeur. Many of the hills are evidently volcanic. About half-way across the island there is a large active volcano. The country around the base is covered with ejected lava stones to the distance of five or six miles. Eighty-four years ago there was an eruption which, it is said, caused much loss of life and property.

After leaving the great Yeddo plain, the track of my journey to the opposite coast lay between mountains, where sometimes the level ground expanded into valleys some twelve miles in breadth, while it often became so narrow that it degenerated into a mere mountain pass. My journey from Takata to Neegata lay along the sea shore. Up to the Neegata plain, a distance of sixty miles, the country is almost uniformly hilly. The hills close to the shore are of no great height, and some are well wooded to their summits. In the Aidzu country the hills form a vast fringe of from thirty to fifty miles in extent round the valley in which Wakamatsu stands. The valley itself is about twenty-four miles long by twelve miles broad; and so completely is it hemmed in all sides by hills and mountains that it might almost be the bed of a great lake. The vale land in the different parts through which I passed was very fertile, and seemed capable of producing in perfection all the vegetable products of a temperate climate. I was, however, especially struck by the richness and depth of soil of the Yeddo plain, which, speaking roundly, extends inland some fifty to sixty miles. As far as I could judge, the Neegata plain is to the west coast what the Yeddo plain is to the east. On comparing its extent and richness, and the importance of the town of Neegata itself, with any other place that I saw on the west coast, I cannot forbear expressing my conviction that it is at present by far the most suitable site for foreign residence and trade in that part of Japan.

It is impossible not to remark the variety of useful plants which grow on the same soil. The Japanese might be supposed to have borrowed both from Asia and Europe all the vegetable products that are most necessary to man. The Japanese have several varieties of the grain crop, suited to different soils and temperature. Their upland varieties of rice would, I believe, be found superior to those of almost any other country. The root crops occasionally reach a prodigious size. In the Aidzu country, carrots and turnip radishes are to be seen over a yard long. Fruits, in certain places, seem capable of enormous development. I weighed at Neegata several pears that reached a couple of pounds. It must, however, be acknowledged that Japanese vegetables and fruits, although abnormally developed by a system of forcing by strong manures, on that very account, in flavour and excellence, fall far short of the same productions grown in Europe. After emerging from the Yeddo plain, I found patches of ground planted with the Irish potato. It is considered, however, an inferior article of diet. It appears to be quite free from disease. Along the track of my journey, I met with most of the commoner species of English road-side plants. Trees sometimes attain an immense size. I measured a cedar that was thirty-nine feet in circumference at the base, and several kiaki trees were over thirty feet in girth, at the distance of a yard from the ground.

Everywhere amongst the hills there was a noticeable absence of animal life both domestic and wild, though some of the hills appeared well suited as pasture land for different kinds of cattle. Birds of all sizes were scarce in the interior, owing in a great measure, I believe, to the numbers that are snared for food, especially where fish is unprocurable.

I failed to discover the existence of any mines along the track of my journey. I heard of the existence of coal, iron, and copper at several places, though up to the present they had not been turned to any useful account.

The rivers in many places, become, in the dry season, mere gravel beds; whilst, in the rainy season, they swell into large rapid streams. In some places, the bed of the river is above the level of the surrounding country, necessitating strong embankments to confine it to its course. Last year, in consequence of the unusual fall of rain, many of the rivers burst their embankments, causing much loss of property. In several places, houses had been swept away or severely injured by the inundations. The rivers appear to be fairly stocked with fish. I saw salmon caught in large numbers in the Neegata River. The average size is from ten to twelve pounds. I saw some specimens that weighed as much as twenty pounds. All the larger rivers of Japan appear to have bars across their outlets into the sea. I had an opportunity of sounding the depth of the Neegata River for eight miles up its course; it varied from twelve to thirty feet. I was told that at the bar across

its mouth the depth of water was only six to eight feet at high tide, and that the largest Japanese junks, if fully laden, require to lighten their cargo before crossing the bar. It is plain that Neegata cannot be made a shipping port for foreign vessels by any ordinary outlay of money. In summer it is, however, the great port of call on the west coast for native junks passing north or south.

During my journey I had frequent occasion to observe the great local changes of temperature. The climates of the east and west coasts of Japan on the same parallel are remarkably different. In winters, the snow sometimes lies ten to fifteen feet in some of the valleys on the west coast, putting a stop for weeks together to all communication. Several of the mountain passes are blocked up with snow during the entire winter months. The cold in some of the highland regions I passed over was intense. In some places, the wind swept up the valleys with extreme keenness; in other places, I was surprised by the comparatively genial character of the atmosphere. On rounding the base of a mountain I not unfrequently came upon snow lying deeply on the ground, though none was to be seen on the other side. After leaving the Yeddo plain there is a sudden fall in the temperature of from ten to fifteen degrees. The country assumes the character of highlands, in which mosquitoes do not exist, even during the hottest summer months.

The western sea is so violent during the winter that native junks scarcely ever venture out upon a cruise; and even the fishing-boats, as a rule, are beached during the stormiest months. On the western coast I saw the wrecks of three steamers, the property of Japanese Daimios. I was told that, north of Neegata, a fourth foreign-rigged vessel had been wrecked. All these wrecks had been occasioned through stress of weather. Gales of wind appeared to be of constant occurrence along the west coast; and judging by the frequency and violence of the storms I witnessed, I am inclined to think that even in the case of foreign vessels the navigation of the Japan Sea will be found so difficult and dangerous as practically to close the west coast to shipping operations during that season of the year. For miles inland the air is filled with the sound of breakers that beat the coast in all weathers.

Whatever may have been the origin of the Japanese people, they are at present a homogeneous race. There are, however, some local differences which I noticed. In parts of the Province of Echigo the people are much handsomer than in any other part of Japan that I have yet seen. Some of the women, even of the lower orders, are almost as fair-skinned as Europeans; and this is the more remarkable as it is only in this province that women act as coolies along the public highways. The strength of the coolie class seemed very different in different places. In one of the silk districts in the Province of Slimano, where the people seemed very prosperous, comparatively, six coolies carried my litter running; whilst in the Aidzu country, where the coolies were weak, sixteen of them seemed quite unable to put forth the same amount of strength.

I went to see the oldest inhabitant at several places where I stopped on the road. I made careful inquiry about the extreme span of human existence in this country. I saw an old woman of the small shopkeeper class, who was stated to have attained 100 years of age. She was certainly the oldest-looking person I had ever seen. She remained in bed constantly during the cold weather. Her faculties were nearly entirely decayed. As a rule, Japanese appear to die of the extremest decrepitude when they attain the age of from 80 to 90. Amongst the nobility and gentry I am told that instances of extreme old age very rarely occur amongst the men, though women of all classes reach a goodly old age. From what I have seen, I am of opinion that the population of Japan is quite as large as the wealth and industry of the country can at present support. There can be no doubt that of late years the country has been growing in material prosperity, more especially in the silk districts. I was told that the price of silk had risen sixfold during the last ten years, and that the amount of ground under silk cultivation had doubled during the same space of time. I saw large tracks of ground in the Provinces of Musashi, Kodsuké, and Shinano, where mulberry-trees had been planted within the last few years, and in some places the hill sides were being gradually covered with mulberry plantations. It appeared to me that there was hardly a limit to the amount of silk that Japan might produce, seeing how well the hill sides suit the growth of the mulberry plant.

From the general attention that was being bestowed upon silk as an article of commerce, and the stimulus that was being communicated by money to the silk districts, I look forward to a yearly increase in the amount produced of this most valuable staple. In every part of my journey I met with samples of foreign goods, both of cotton and woollen manufacture. I was told the demand for such articles was steadily on the increase.

I started on my journey from Yeddo on the 5th of October last, and returned to

that city on the 28th of December. The journey, which is over 600 miles, was accomplished by riding in a kango, or walking, according to circumstances.

In conclusion, I may, from my own experience, bear testimony to the bravery and hardihood with which the invading forces of the Mikado bore hardships and privation, which were almost more cruel than the weapons of the enemy. All possible efforts were taken to protect me from privation, and yet the severity of the cold was so intense, and the poverty of the food so trying, that my servants and assistants nearly all broke down under it. After a long day's work the only refuge would be a house open to the blasts of the wind; the only comfort rations of rice and stale fish, which we ate all huddling round the imperfect warmth of a charcoal brazier. But even this was luxury compared with what the fighting men of the Mikado had to put up with.

(Signed)

W. WILLIS.

Yeddo, January 23, 1869.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Higashi Kuzé Chiujo to Sir H. Parkes.

(Translation.)

Sir,

January 10, 1869.

THE soldiers wounded during the war in Echigo have been indebted in no ordinary manner to Dr. Willis for surgical attendance. His Majesty the Mikado, on being informed of the circumstances, was extremely gratified, and I have received His Majesty's order to present the accompanying seven rolls of brocade to that gentleman as a slight mark of acknowledgment. I have the honour, therefore, to request your Excellency to be so good as to convey the same to Dr. Willis as may seem most proper.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HIGASHI KUZE CHIUJO.

No. 8.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of January, inclosing a Memorandum by Dr. Willis of his mission to the North of Japan to offer his medical services to the wounded Japanese soldiers; and I have to instruct you to inform Dr. Willis that I have read his Report with great interest, and that I highly approve his proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Reports of Journeys in China and Japan
performed by Mr. Alabaster, Mr. Oxen-
ham, Mr. Markham, and Dr. Willis, of
Her Majesty's Consular Service in those
Countries.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 5½d.*]

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

DECLARATION
FOR THE
EXEMPTION
OF
BRITISH SUBJECTS IN DENMARK,
AND
DANISH SUBJECTS IN GREAT BRITAIN,
FROM
FORCED LOANS AND COMPULSORY
MILITARY SERVICE.

Signed at Copenhagen, June 14, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

DECLARATION for the Exemption of British Subjects in Denmark,
and Danish Subjects in Great Britain, from Forced Loans
and Compulsory Military Service.

Signed at Copenhagen, June 14, 1869.

Declaration.

THE Undersigned, Sir Charles Lennox Wyke, Knight Commander of the Bath, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Denmark, and Count Krag-Juel-Vind-Frijs, President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of Denmark, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, hereby declare that British subjects in the dominions and possessions of Denmark, and Danish subjects in the dominions and possessions of Great Britain, are exempt from forced loans, as well as from all compulsory military service, whether in the Army, Navy, Militia, or National Guard, and from all contributions, whether pecuniary or in kind, as a commutation for personal service, provided they shall not have become naturalized in the country in which they reside: and with regard to all other military requisitions in respect of the possession or occupation of property, said British and Danish subjects, respectively, shall be on precisely the same footing as the native-born subjects of the two countries.

Done at Copenhagen, this 14th day of June, 1869.

(L.S.) C. LENNOX WYKE.

(L.S.) C. E. KRAG-JUEL-VIND-FRIJS.

Déclaration.

LES Soussignés, le Comte de Krag-Juel-Vind-Frijs, Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark, et Sir Charles Lennox Wyke, Commandeur de l'Ordre du Bain, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique près la Cour de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark, dûment autorisés à cet effet par leurs Gouvernements respectifs, déclarent par la présente, que les sujets Danois dans la Grande Bretagne et ses dépendances, et les sujets Britanniques en Danemark et ses dépendances, sont exempts de tout emprunt forcé et de tout service militaire dans l'Armée, dans la Marine, dans le Milice, et dans la Garde Nationale, ainsi que de toute contribution, soit pécuniaire, soit en nature, en remplacement du service militaire personnel, à la condition, toutefois, qu'ils n'aient pas été naturalisés dans le pays où ils résident: quant aux réquisitions militaires relatives aux biens-fonds possédés ou occupés par des sujets Danois en Grande Bretagne ou par des sujets Britanniques en Danemark, les dits sujets seront traités sur le même pied que les nationaux des deux pays.

Fait à Copenhague, le 14 Juin, 1869.

(L.S.) C. E. KRAG-JUEL-VIND-FRIJS.

(L.S.) C. LENNOX WYKE.

DENMARK.

DECLARATION for the Exemption of British Subjects
in Denmark, and Danish Subjects in Great
Britain, from Forced Loans and Compulsory
Military Service.

Signed at Copenhagen, June 14, 1869.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,

ACCESSION
OF
MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN
TO THE
TREATY OF NAVIGATION
BETWEEN
GREAT BRITAIN AND PRUSSIA.

Signed at Berlin, January 9, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Declaration recording the Accession of the Grand Duchy of
Mecklenburg-Schwerin to the Treaty of Navigation of the
16th of August, 1865, between Great Britain and Prussia.

Signed at Berlin, January 9, 1869.

Declaration.

THE Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin having joined the German Customs and Commercial Union, the Government of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke has declared to the Presidency of the latter its intention of availing itself of the right, reserved by Article V of the Treaty of Navigation concluded on the 16th of August, 1865, between Great Britain and Prussia, to States joining the Zollverein, of becoming parties to that Treaty. The Presidency of the German Customs and Commercial Union having brought this Declaration to the knowledge of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the Undersigned have met to-day in the Chancery of the North German Confederation to record, by means of the present Declaration, which has been prepared in duplicate, the accession of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin to the Treaty of Navigation of the 16th of August, 1865, between Great Britain and Prussia.

Done at Berlin, the 9th January, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.

Deklaration.

DIE Regierung Seiner Königlichen Hoheit des Grossherzogs von Mecklenburg-Schwerin hat, nachdem das Grossherzogthum dem Deutschen Zoll- und Handels-Vereine angeschlossen worden, dem Präsidium des letzteren erklärt, dass sie die Absicht habe, von dem, im Artikel V des Schiffahrts-Vertrages zwischen Grossbritannien und Preussen vom 16 August, 1865, jedem, dem Zollvereine sich anschliessenden Staate vorbehaltenen Rechte des Beitritts zu diesem Vertrage, Gebrauch zu machen. Nachdem das Präsidium des Deutschen Zoll- und Handels-Vereins der Regierung Ihrer Grossbritannischen Majestät von dieser Erklärung Kenntniss gegeben hat, sind die Unterzeichneten heute im Kanzler-Amte des Norddeutschen Bundes zusammengekommen, um durch gegenwärtige, in doppelter Ausfertigung vollzogene Deklaration, den Beitritt des Grossherzogthums Mecklenburg-Schwerin zu dem Schiffahrts-Vertrage zwischen Grossbritannien und Preussen vom 16 August, 1865, zu konstatiren.

Geschehen zu Berlin, den 9ten Januar, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.

Accession of Mecklenburg-Schwerin to
the Treaty of Navigation between Great
Britain and Prussia.

Signed at Berlin, January 5, 1869.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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ACCESSION

OF

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN, MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ,
LAUENBURG, AND LUBECK,

TO THE

TREATY OF COMMERCE

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE ZOLLVEREIN.

Signed at Berlin, January 9, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Declaration recording the Accession of the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, of the Duchy of Lauenburg, and of the Free and Hanseatic City of Lubeck, to the Treaty of Commerce of May 30, 1865, between Great Britain and the Zollverein.

Signed at Berlin, January 9, 1869.

THE Presidency of the German Customs and Commercial Union having informed the Government of Her Britannic Majesty that the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duchy of Lauenburg, and the Free and Hanseatic City of Lubeck, have acceded to the German Customs and Commercial Union, and have notified their wish to become parties to the arrangements established by the Treaty of Commerce of May 30, 1865, between Great Britain and the Zollverein; and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty having notified their assent to this wish;—the Undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have accordingly agreed that the stipulations of the Treaty of Commerce of May 30, 1865, between Great Britain and the Zollverein, shall also be applicable henceforth to the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duchy of Lauenburg, and to the Free and Hanseatic City of Lubeck.

In witness thereof the Undersigned have signed the present Declaration, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Berlin, the 9th January, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.

NACHDEM das Präsidium des Deutschen Zoll- und Handels-Vereins die Regierung Ihrer Grossbritannischen Majestät benachrichtigt hat, dass die Grossherzogthümer Mecklenburg-Schwerin und Mecklenburg-Strelitz, das Herzogthum Lauenburg, und die Freie und Hansestadt Lübeck sich dem Deutschen Zoll- und Handels-Verein angeschlossen und den Wunsch zu erkennen gegeben haben, in das durch den Handels-Vertrag zwischen Grossbritannien und dem Zollverein vom 30 Mai, 1865, begründete Verhältniss einzutreten; und nachdem die Regierung Ihrer Grossbritannischen Majestät ihr Einverständniss mit diesem Wunsche zu erkennen gegeben hat;—sind die Unterzeichneten auf Grund erhaltener Ermächtigung, dahin übereingekommen, dass die Bestimmungen des Handels-Vertrages zwischen Grossbritannien und dem Zollverein vom 30 Mai, 1865, fortan auch auf die Grossherzogthümer Mecklenburg-Schwerin und Mecklenburg-Strelitz, das Herzogthum Lauenburg, sowie auf die Freie und Hansestadt Lübeck Anwendung finden sollen.

Zu Urkund dessen haben die Unterzeichneten die gegenwärtige Erklärung vollzogen, und mit ihrem Wappensiegel versehen.

Geschehen zu Berlin, den 9ten Januar, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.

Accession of Mecklenburg-Schwerin,
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Lauenburg, and
Lubeck to the Treaty of Commerce
between Great Britain and the Zoll-
verein.

Signed at Berlin, January 9, 1869.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

COMPLAINTS

MADE AGAINST

MR. GRENVILLE-MURRAY

AS

HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL-GENERAL

AT

ODESSA ;

AND TO HIS

DISMISSAL FROM HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

1858-69.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their
Address dated March 16, 1869.*

for—

“Copy of Papers relative to the Complaints made against Mr. Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray as Her Majesty’s Consul-General at Odessa, and to his Dismissal from Her Majesty’s Service.”

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Mr. Grenville-Murray's Instructions on Appointment as Consul-General at Odessa.

No. 1.

The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1858.

I HAVE to acquaint you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint you to be Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, and I transmit to you herewith a certified copy of your Commission to that effect. The original Commission will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at St Petersburg, with instructions to apply to the Russian Government for the necessary Exequatur, which, together with your Commission, will be sent to you at Odessa.

Mr. G. B. Mathew, your predecessor, has been instructed to make over to you, upon your arrival, the archives of the Consulate-General; and you will find in those archives and in the general Consular Instructions which form part of them, the means of making yourself acquainted with the general nature of your duties as Her Majesty's Consul-General.

You will be punctual in transmitting to Her Majesty's Government the various Returns specified in the Consular instructions, together with any useful and interesting information relating to commerce, navigation, agriculture, or any other branch of statistics.

As Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, you will receive a salary of 750*l.* a-year, and a further sum of 250*l.* will be allowed you towards the expenses of your outfit.

You are restricted from engaging in commercial pursuits; and you will understand that the amount of salary attached to your appointment is to be considered liable to revision hereafter, if it should be considered expedient, and that the same condition applies to the privilege of appropriating to your own use the fees leviable under the Act 6 Geo. IV, cap. 87, and the Order in Council of the 1st of May, 1855.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Commission.

(L.S.)

VICTORIA R.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and singular to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

Whereas We have thought it necessary for the encouragement of Our subjects trading to the Russian Ports in the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff, to appoint a Consul-General for those Ports, to reside at Odessa, to take care of the affairs of Our said subjects, and to aid and assist them in all their lawful and mercantile concerns: Now Know Ye that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the discretion and faithfulness of Our trusty and well-beloved Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray, Esq., now attached to Our Legation at the Court of Persia, have nominated, constituted, and appointed, as We do by these Presents nominate, constitute, and appoint him the said Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray to be Our Consul-General for the Russian Ports in the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff, Hereby giving and granting unto him full power and authority by all lawful means to aid and protect Our merchants and others, Our subjects, who may trade with, or visit, or reside at those Ports, and also to appoint Vice-Consuls at such Ports and Places

within his Consular district as may be necessary for the better protection of Our subjects trading with, visiting, or residing at all such Ports or Places: To have and to hold the said Office during Our pleasure, with all the rights, privileges, and immunities thereunto appertaining.

And We do hereby strictly enjoin and require all Our subjects to take due notice of this Our Commission, and yield obedience thereto.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the Twenty-fourth day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-eight, in the Twenty-second Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 2.

The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith my Warrant authorizing you to solemnize and register marriages under the provisions of the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68; and for instructions for your guidance in those matters I have to refer you to the despatch which accompanied the Warrant addressed to your predecessor on the 6th of January, 1857.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Circular 1 referred to in No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Mathew.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 6, 1857.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith my Warrant to solemnize and register marriages under the provisions of the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68; and I have to refer you to the despatch which accompanied the Warrant addressed to your predecessor on the 22nd of January, 1850, and which contains full directions for your guidance in these matters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Circular 2 referred to in No. 2.

Mr. Bidwell to Consul-General Yeames.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 22, 1850.

WITH reference to Viscount Palmerston's Circular of the 6th of November, 1849, inclosing to you certain Forms relating to marriages under the Act 12 and 13 Vict. cap. 68, I am directed by his Lordship to transmit to you herewith, the two Register Books of Marriages with which the Act provides (in the 11th section) that you are to be furnished; and also several loose sheets for the copies which you are ordered by the 12th section to forward from time to time to the Secretary of State.

I likewise transmit to you loose sheets of other documents enumerated in the Circular above-mentioned.

(Signed) JOHN BIDWELL.

Circular 3 referred to in No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to Her Majesty's Consul at Odessa.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to you a printed copy of an Act passed in the last session of Parliament,* entitled "An Act for facilitating the Marriages of British Subjects resident in Foreign Countries;" and I have to signify to you the Queen's commands that you will take care that the provisions of this Act of Parliament shall be strictly complied with, so far as you may be called upon to carry them into effect.

With this view, I transmit to you printed copies of the several Forms which Her Majesty's Consuls are required to make use of in the discharge of those duties, and which have been prepared and sanctioned by the Registrar-General, as provided in Section XI of the Act:—

First.—A Form of Notice of Marriage as required under Section II.

Secondly.—A Form of Register of Marriage Notices required to be kept by Section III.

* 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68.

Thirdly.—A Form of Oath, Affirmation, or Declaration, which is to be made by parties praying for a Licence under Section IV.

Fourthly.—A Form in which a Caveat against a Marriage is to be made under Section VII.

Fifthly.—A Form according to which the Register Books are to be kept by Consuls, under Section XI of the Act.

Sixthly.—A Form according to which each Consul is to send to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State "a true copy of every Entry of Marriage in such Register Book, duly certified under hand and seal," as required by Section XII.

Seventhly.—A Form according to which Consuls are to send home the Certificate that no Marriage has taken place within the past year. This Form is also required by Section XII.

Eighthly.—A List of Questions which, by Section XIV, Consuls may put to parties wishing to be married.

Ninthly.—A copy of the Registration Act of 6th and 7th of William IV, cap. 86, referred to in Section XVIII, together with a copy of the Act 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85, which points out, in Section XXIII, the duties which will devolve upon you as a Registrar of Marriages; and a copy of the Registration and Marriage Amendment Act of 1 Vict., cap. 22.

And lastly.—I inclose a Warrant under my hand, to authorize you to solemnize and register Marriages under the provisions of this Act of Parliament, in the form and manner prescribed in the said Act.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Form of Warrant.

WHEREAS by the 19th Section of the Act of the 12th and 13th of Her Majesty, cap. 68, entitled, "An Act for facilitating the Marriages of British Subjects resident in Foreign Countries," it is enacted "that every British Consul-General and Consul already appointed or hereafter to be appointed to reside in any foreign country or place, who shall be directed or authorized, by writing under the hand of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to solemnize and register marriages, and any person duly authorized to act in the absence of such Consul, or in any foreign place where there is no British Consul resident, any Vice-Consul or Consular Agent who shall be directed or authorized as aforesaid by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to solemnize and register marriages in such place, shall, in the country or place in which he is so appointed to reside, or in which he is directed or authorized to solemnize and register marriages as aforesaid, be a Consul duly authorized for all the purposes of this Act; and in the construction of this Act the term 'Consul' shall (save where such construction would be inconsistent with the context) be construed to mean a Consul so authorized; and the district of every such Consul for the purposes of this Act shall be all or such parts of the foreign country in which (or at a place within which) such Consul is appointed to reside, or is so directed or authorized as aforesaid, as such Secretary of State may, by such writing under his hand, direct, or where there shall be no direction in this behalf, shall be the district of the Consulate of such Consul."

I hereby authorize you, the British Consul appointed to reside at _____ to solemnize and register marriages under the provisions of the above recited Act, and in the form and manner therein prescribed.

And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given at the Foreign Office in London, this _____ day of _____

Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

No. 3.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Odessa, September 20, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 7th ultimo, authorizing me to solemnize and register marriages.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 4.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1859.

I HAVE to acquaint you that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have consented to the salary attached to your post of Consul-General at Odessa being raised to 900*l.* a year, and to an allowance of 300*l.* a year being assigned to that appointment, which allowance is to cover, so far as this office is concerned, all the office expenses of the Consulate-General, and is to commence from the 1st instant.

The increased rate of salary is to date from the 1st of January last, and the difference between the old and new scale will be made good to you in calculating your salary for the current quarter.

In consequence of this arrangement you will be required to account to Her Majesty's Government for the fees levied at your Consulate-General, which you will collect and account for in the manner pointed out in my other despatch of this day's date.*

This arrangement as to fees will take effect from the 1st instant, and on the 30th of September you will be at liberty to draw for the first quarter of your allowance of 300*l.* a year, and in like manner on the termination of each quarter for the proportion of the allowance then due to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 5.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 18.)

My Lord,

Odessa, August 7, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch dated the 14th ultimo, acquainting me that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have consented to the salary of my post of Consul-General at Odessa being raised to 900*l.* a year, and to an allowance of 300*l.* a year being assigned towards office expenses; also that in consequence of this arrangement I shall be required to account to Her Majesty's Government for all fees levied at my Consulate-General, and to collect and account for the same in the manner pointed out in your Lordship's other despatch of same date.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 6.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 26.)

My Lord,

Odessa, February 9, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a despatch under flying seal, addressed to the Registrar-General, containing a certified Return of marriages solemnized at this Consulate-General during the years 1858, 1859, and 1860, copied on the usual printed forms.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 7.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received December 9.)

My Lord,

Odessa, November 26, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to apply to your Lordship for authority to charge in my next account the sum of 80 silver roubles, or about 11*l.* 9*s.* English money, being the sum expended by me for arranging, indexing, and binding into books for convenient reference the whole of the archives of this Consulate-General, from the year 1807 till 1861 inclusive; the said archives never having been previously bound or arranged in a proper manner, and having got into great disorder owing to the late war, and other causes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

* See No. 18, page 26.

Complaints made by the Master of the Barque "San Francisco,"
and by the Masters of other Vessels trading to Odessa, of the
heavy Consular Fees levied by Mr. Grenville-Murray: 1859

No. 8.

Letter addressed to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 10, 1859.)

SURELY Lord Malmesbury ought to dismiss a Consul at once who robs ships like this. But there will be a great exposition of the public and private character of this Mr. Grenville-Murray in a very short time; the sooner the Foreign Office is rid of him the better. Read leader in "Shipping Gazette" of Monday.

A SHIP-OWNER AND FRIEND TO
PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Extract from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette" of January 3, 1859.

CONSULAR FEES.

To the Editor of the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette."

Sir,—KNOWING your willingness at all times to expose our grievances, and to exert your influence to get them redressed, I trust you will find a corner in your valuable paper for the following letter:—

As the Consular Fee system has lately been under the consideration of a Committee of the House of Commons, I beg to call your attention to the fees now exacted in this port by the newly appointed Consul-General.

Now, I consider that the only fees he has any legal right to charge, under ordinary circumstances, are for bill of health, and a certificate of origin of the cargo laden here, if required, both being documents perfectly useless, and only given to shipmasters for sake of the fees, that cannot possibly exceed 7 roubles, in lieu of 36 roubles. We are furnished here on clearing with a Russian and also a Turkish bill of health; and as we are compelled to take pratique at Constantinople, the English bill of health is useless for that purpose. As to the certificate of origin, you well know that for years past grain of all kinds has been admitted into England at the same rate of duty from every part of the world, without any such paper being required.

I shall now call your attention to another circumstance. On the 6th instant, the Captain of the Port issued an order that fires were to be no longer permitted on board our ships, and that we were to cook on shore in a small cookhouse, at the utmost only large enough for thirty ships, and there were near 300 in the port; added to which Reaumur's thermometer showed seven to ten degrees of frost. From the absolute impossibility of this absurd order being complied with in an open port like Odessa, a number of English shipmasters signed and sent a request to the Consul-General to use his influence with the authorities to get the said order rescinded (copy of which follows), in which, unfortunately, they made use of the word "protest," so that the Consul-General has charged each person who signed it a fee, amounting to somewhere about 25 roubles, as near as can be ascertained from the vagueness of the Consular receipts, which perhaps the Foreign Office in London can explain more clearly.

As eighteen to twenty shipmasters signed this paper, which the Consul calls a protest, the fees amount to a large sum, for what was never intended to be a protest at all, but merely a simple memorial to the Consul to exert his influence for the benefit of his countrymen, which is, I believe, the proper and most important duty of a Consul in a foreign country.

I can vouch for the accuracy of these statements, and, if required, name the ships and masters. More, I have been nearly nine years constantly trading to Odessa, and have seen the Consular charges increase unaccountably from 8 roubles 60 copecks to upwards of 36 roubles. It seems to me that some explanation of these new and extraordinary charges is absolutely required, as nothing satisfactory can be obtained of the Consul-General here.

In conclusion, I believe both you and your readers will generally consider the protest affair to be a gross instance of the injurious tendency of the present Consular Fee system, and the sooner a stop is put to those functionaries exercising their ingenuity in screwing the largest possible amount of fees out of shipping, these hard times, the better.

Apologizing for troubling you to such length, I remain, &c.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD PAIGE,
Master of the barque "*San Francisco*," of London.

Odessa, November 27, 1858.

N.B.—The rouble may be taken at present to be equal to 3s., the copeck the 100th part of it.

The following is the Protest referred to in the above letter:—

"We, the undersigned British shipmasters now lying in the port of Odessa, do make our protest as follows:—

"We protest against the order received on the morning of the 6th of November, 1858, from the Commandant of the Port, that from and after this date no fires or lights are to be allowed on board our vessels.

"In the first place, there is no suitable place on the mole fit for the cooking of the shipping in the harbour, and the Government have not provided any establishment on shore close to the shipping fit for the masters and crews to live in, and the business of the masters will not allow them to reside in the city, especially at this season of the year, when the presence of the masters and crews are required on board their ships for their safety and protection—particularly so, as the quarantine mole is not a safe port for ships to lie in, as there are now several ships that have received damage during the last week. Many men amongst our crews are now suffering from the cold; so, if we are not permitted to have fires on board of our ships, many of our crews will perish in consequence. We further state, that we will not hold ourselves responsible for the merchants' cargoes while alongside of our ships if we are not allowed to have fires and lights on board for the comfort of ourselves and crews. During the present boisterous season we often require lights to examine the condition of the lighters and the fenders for the protection of both our ships and cargo, and if this notice which is now given to us (not knowing whether it is a law or not) is carried out, we will neither be answerable to the merchant nor underwriters for the results that might follow. The winter has now commenced, and it seems impossible for us to submit to such regulations, especially at this inclement season of the year.

"Only one day's notice given to us to make preparations for cooking on shore, and no fit establishment to do it in. We solemnly protest against it, trusting that the Government will see the reasonableness of our request to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General. Trusting he will see our grievances redressed as soon as possible.

"(Signed by a number of Shipmasters in the Port of Odessa.)

"Odessa, November 6, 1858."

To all whom these presents shall come, I, Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff, do hereby certify that the paper writing hereunto annexed, purporting to be a copy of a protest made and signed by the British shipmasters in Odessa, bearing date the 6th day of November, 1858, is a true and correct copy of such protest, the same having been carefully examined and compared with the original protest, which was made and signed before me, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa. In

testimony whereof I have herewith subscribed my name, and affixed my seal of office, this 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1858.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

The following extracts are taken from Captain Paige's log :—

Thursday, December 9, 1858.—At 11 A.M., being confined to my bed by sickness, and having seen the Consular accounts of a number of British ships that have cleared here lately, which, in my opinion, are both exorbitant and illegal, I sent my mate to the Consul-General with a note, couched in the following terms :—"Sir,—Being sick, and unable to come to the Consulate myself, I shall feel obliged by your giving the ship's articles to the mate, as the ship is ready to sail. I do not require any other Consular papers whatever, but should thank you to deliver the above document to him."—(Signed and addressed.)

On reading the above note, the Consul-General told the mate that he knew nothing about the articles, the shipping department being in the hands of the Vice-Consul, to whose private residence the mate then went, and found him confined to his bed by sickness. The Vice-Consul told him that the consignee of the ship had better write to the Consul-General that he required the ship's articles, as the ship was laden and ready to sail.

Friday, December 10, 1858.—At 11.30 A.M., though still suffering severely from acute rheumatic fever, and contrary to the doctor's advice, I went to the Consul-General's office to demand the immediate delivery of my ship's articles. On reaching the office, I saw a person who, on my stating my errand, told me that he knew nothing of the ship's business; that I must go to the Vice-Consul. I answered that I knew of no other Consular office in Odessa; that my mate had informed me the Vice-Consul was confined to his bed by sickness; and if the Vice-Consul was unable to attend to his duty, some other person must be appointed to do so, as I could not detain my ship till he might get well again. The person who all this time stood holding the door in his hand, and who I was surprised afterwards to find was no less a person than the Consul-General himself, then said he knew nothing at all about it.

I then went to the residence of the Vice-Consul, who was still sick in bed. I related to him what had passed at the Consul-General's. He told me that if I did not take a bill of health, and a certificate of origin of the cargo, I must be responsible for the consequences. I replied that I was perfectly aware of it; on which he said that if the articles were in his possession he would give them to me. He then wrote a short note to the Consul-General, which I at once took to him, and after reading it he said that I must write him a letter stating that I did not require any Consular papers. I answered that I had already done so yesterday, and sent it to him by the mate. He said that he had not received it; yet my mate states that he is ready to swear that he gave it into his own hands, and that he read it in his presence. I then said, I have to-day told both you and the Vice-Consul repeatedly that I do not require any Consular papers but those you may insist on giving me, and am quite prepared to be responsible for any consequences that can possibly result from such refusal.

I then requested him to tell me plainly whether he would give me the ship's articles if I wrote the letter he required; but he evaded the question, saying that I had already my answer, and that if I waited a month I should get no other from him. I repeated that I was perfectly willing to take any Consular papers that he insisted on giving me, and pay whatever fees he chose to charge, under protest; but that I should place them immediately in the hands of my owner's London solicitor, so that if the fees were just and legal, all would be paid, but if the contrary he must abide the consequences. I also distinctly and positively denied his right to retain my ship's articles in any case.

I waited about half an hour, and as he still refused either to give me the articles or even to speak to me, I left the office; but on leaving he said that he had sent for the police to arrest me. I replied that if such was the case, they must seek me; that I did not intend remaining in his office for the police to come and take me to a Russian prison, particularly as I had done nothing for which he had a right to arrest me.

In the course of the afternoon my consignee called on the Consul-General with a written order from me for the delivery of the ship's articles, but he still refused to do so. Under all these circumstances, and with the advice of my consignee, I went on board the ship, and at 6 P.M. got under weigh and proceeded to sea without being molested by any person whatever, or of any one having come to the ship to seek me during the day.

London, January 3, 1859.

Our impression of to-day contains complaints from two shipmasters respecting the charges made by our Consuls at certain foreign ports, and the inconvenience and expense attending the present system of Consular fees. One of our correspondents, Captain Paige, of the "*San Francisco*," writes from Odessa, the other from France; and although the grievance in the one case is much more serious than in the other, the infliction in both instances is entirely unjustifiable, and, as we shall show, contrary to law, and in direct contravention of the instructions issued to our Consular Officers by the Government. Captain Paige asserts that in the nine years during which he has been a constant trader to Odessa, he has seen the Consular charges increase from 8 roubles 60 copecks to upwards of 36 roubles (from about 25s. to 6*l.*), and he complains that, in the present instance, the latter charge was made for the certificate of origin of the cargo, and for a bill of health, which, seeing that the "*San Francisco*" was furnished on clearing with a Russian and a Turkish bill of health, and that the vessel was compelled to take pratique at Constantinople, was a totally useless document. Captain Paige's letter contains another allegation. It appears that the captain of the port at Odessa had issued an order that no fires should be permitted on board foreign ships. A cook-house was provided on shore for British vessels, but the accommodation was so small that it would not accommodate the tenth part of the crews, who were thus compelled to resort to it. Against this stupid and, considering the season of the year, barbarous regulation, eighteen or twenty British shipmasters, and amongst them our correspondent, memorialized the Consul-General requesting him to exert his influence with the authorities of Odessa to get the order rescinded. This memorial the Consul-General thought fit to regard as a "Protest," on which he was authorized to charge his fees, and accordingly these fees were demanded from the subscribers to the memorial, at the rate of 25 roubles (3*l.* 15s.) from each shipmaster, the entire amounting to a very considerable sum. Captain Paige, it would seem, objected to these accumulated payments. The "*San Francisco*" was consequently detained two days in the port of Odessa after she was ready for sea, and Captain Paige was finally compelled to go to sea without the ship's articles. Our correspondent, who writes from France, has also a grievance to complain of, which demands immediate attention. He was compelled to take a certificate of clearance from the Consul, and to pay the charges thereon, although no such clearance is prescribed by law. It is quite true that the charge here referred to has been customary there for some years, but we maintain that it has no foundation in law, and that it is an abuse which is entirely indefensible.

Let us see how the law stands on this question of Consular fees, and what are the authorized regulations. The Merchant Shipping Act (sec. 279) directs that ship's articles, indentures, &c., shall be deposited with the Consul on the ship's arrival in a foreign port, but no fee is to be charged for their custody or endorsement. And in the Instructions to Consuls by the Board of Trade, it is expressly stated (sec. 174), that the "Consular services for which fees are payable, so far as they relate to shipping, are matters which a British shipmaster may call upon a Consul to perform, and have for their object the protection and benefit of the British shipping interest, but are not to be looked upon merely as indirect means for increasing the Consuls' emoluments. It is, therefore (proceeds the instructions), for the master of the ship alone to judge whether it is expedient to procure from the Consul any of the documents mentioned, the furnishing of which will authorize the Consul to levy a specified fee." It is clear, then, that the Consul General at Odessa, in forcing upon the captain of the "*San Francisco*" a bill of health and certificate of origin, acted not only without authority of law, but in direct contravention of the instructions issued by that Department of the Government to which, if not directly responsible, the Consular establishment is subordinated in all that relates to shipping matters. As to the charge for forwarding the shipmasters' memorial to the Russian authorities at Odessa, and the charges thereon, if a charge were made at all by the Consul for his official interference, he was only authorized, as it seems to us, to charge that fee for "annexing the seal of office and signature" to any document not expressly mentioned in the table of fees, which is a matter of 5s. The memorial in question was not a notarial document, and this the Consul-General at Odessa should have known, and, therefore, there was no excuse for charging the fees allowed for the transaction of notarial business. It was the act of the Queen's Representative on behalf of British subjects seeking redress from a municipal infliction at a foreign port; and if a legitimate occasion for the levy of a fee—which we doubt—it should have been the nominal fee to which we have referred. If, therefore, Captain Paige's statement be correct, there has been a gross overcharge on the part of our Consul at Odessa, which the owners of the "*San Francisco*" ought not to submit to. Neither are we disposed to admit in justification of such charges the plea of "customary usage." Consular duties and remuneration are not matters of

prescription, but of law. The custody and endorsement of ship's articles, indentures, &c., is the duty of the Consul, on which he has a right to insist. Beyond this, except in criminal matters, he can only act at the express desire of the shipmaster or his representative; and if the shipmaster declines to take a certificate of origin, bill of health, or any other document, the Consul has no right whatever to compel him to do so—still less to inflict a mulct for his refusal. We rejoice to think that this whole system of Consular fees is about to be so far reformed that the Consul will have no personal interest in any charges which he may levy on ship or cargo.

No. 9.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1859.

THE Earl of Malmesbury's attention has been called to the inclosed slip from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette,"* containing a complaint against you for having improperly exacted fees from certain British shipmasters, and for having unjustifiably detained the articles of the barque "San Francisco;" and I am directed by his Lordship to instruct you to furnish an explanation of this complaint.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 10.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 7.)

Sir,

Odessa, January 27, 1859.

I TAKE the liberty of writing a few lines to say I have duly received your despatch of the 13th instant, and to exonerate myself from any appearance of negligence or disrespect of orders. But the heavy current business of the office, and the preparation of the yearly Returns, has prevented my being able to complete my official reply for to-day's post. I shall not fail, however, to send it on Wednesday. I have answered at considerable length, that my explanations may be complete, and that everything connected with the Fee question here may be submitted at one view to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE MURRAY.

No. 11.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 15.)

Sir,

Odessa, February 1, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch dated 13th January, informing me that the Earl of Malmesbury's attention has been called to a slip (inclosed), from the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," containing a complaint against me for having improperly exacted fees from certain British shipmasters, and for having unjustifiably detained the articles of the barque "San Francisco." In reply, I have the honour to state, that all business connected with the fees and shipping is conducted here, as in other Consulates-General, entirely by the Vice-Consul. I have, however, made careful inquiry into the circumstances mentioned, and hasten to forward the following explanation, taking the charges in order as they are made.

1. No alteration of any kind has been made in the fees on shipping at this Consulate-General since my arrival. The assertion that British vessels are habitually charged upwards of 36 roubles for their clearances, is entirely false and groundless. Precisely the same fees as those charged by my predecessor are still taken from shipmasters, and for exactly the same papers in the old forms (inclosed), printed before I came here. Those papers are three in number:—first, a certificate that they have duly entered and cleared at the Consulate-General, according to law required by the Russian authorities; secondly, a bill of health; thirdly, a certificate of origin. These papers, when taken at all by shipmasters, are charged according to the official fee-table, and merely vary with the exchanges. If shipmasters decline to take these papers, then they pay no fee at all

* See Inclosure in No. 8.

I have given the strictest orders that no paper shall ever be pressed on shipmasters, and no fee ever insisted on if refused. If a shipmaster objects to his account, the answer is, "Pay or not, as you please." Ships' articles are always returned before the fee-bill is made out. Cases, however, frequently occur of vessels being detained in Russian ports not being provided with proper papers; and a warning is therefore given to shipmasters who leave without the usual clearances, because they may inflict loss on their owners by non-compliance with the customary regulations. As regards notarial fees, I have the honour to inclose the official fee-table (the same paper), which has been hanging up in the office of the Consulate-General ever since my arrival. By this, shipmasters have been always able to verify every separate item in their accounts. The "Journal of Odessa," giving the current rate of exchange, is also kept in the office. Any error or overcharge is thus next to impossible. When an account has been made out in detail, and added up in presence of the shipmaster, a stamped receipt for the sum paid is given to him, such having always been the practice at this office. For any further information I have the honour to refer you to a despatch dated 19th January, which I sent Mr. James Murray in reply to a letter on the subject of Consular fees addressed to me by that gentleman on the 1st of November, 1858.*

The whole business of the fees. Everything connected with them is so very disagreeable and unsatisfactory, that it would be difficult to express how strongly I feel on the subject, and how much I wish for their abolition. It is impossible to satisfy shipmasters by any charges, however low, while the Consul is supposed to levy the fees for his own use. I do not believe, however, that any system will stop the complaints of shipmasters. They are as frequent as unreasonable. There is now registered in this Consulate-General a protest (copy inclosed), against the fees levied by the Supreme Consular Court at Constantinople. In this protest the worst motives are attributed to the officers of that Court, although the fees are collected there for Government account.

Whenever a shipmaster gets into trouble or misbehaves himself, whenever he has a real or supposed grievance of any kind against the Consulate, he is almost certain to protest about the fees; for he is thus enabled to use offensive language to the Consul with impunity, and give vent to his own ill feeling in a popular outcry. There has been so much, moreover, recently said and written about Consular fees,—so many projects and opinions have been put forward,—that the minds of shipmasters have become quite confused. Most of them believe the fees to be abolished, and, therefore, that any demand for them whatever is illegal and improper.

2. Referring to the next complaint, I have the honour to state that, on the 6th of November, 1858, some of the British shipmasters then at Odessa, came to me and said that an order had been issued by the Captain of the Port, forbidding all lights and fires on board their vessels during the winter. While I was talking with them, the Austrian and Sardinian Consuls-General called on me about the same business, and after some consideration we agreed to go together to the Russian authorities and endeavour to persuade them to cancel that order. We did so. We went to all the principal authorities in turn, and a long discussion took place. It appeared that the authorities at Odessa could do nothing at all in the matter; that the order forbidding lights and fires in the port was not a mere arbitrary measure of the local functionaries, but a positive law in force throughout Russia, and which, therefore, could only be altered by the Emperor. It is far from being an absurd order as Mr. Paige supposes. It is intended for the protection of the shipping. If by negligence or accident a single vessel caught fire while the port is frozen, no water could be obtained to extinguish it, and in consequence of the high winds which prevail here in winter, every ship in the harbour would probably be consumed. Last year a fire did break out in the port, and was with great difficulty suppressed.

With this answer I returned to the shipmasters, who still waited at my house. The weather was bitterly cold and wet. They said they should protest against the order they had received. They did protest. They did not merely use the word protest once and unintentionally; they employed it four separate times, and added the expression "solemnly." The language of their protest (inclosed) was throughout unusually strong and emphatic. The shipmasters declared they would "neither be answerable to the merchants nor underwriters for the results that might follow," nor "for the safety of the cargoes then alongside their vessels." Interests of incalculable importance were thus involved, and it was necessary to proceed very cautiously, for it was impossible to foresee how the matter might end. The danger to be apprehended was not an imaginary danger: Odessa is a very unsafe port. Two total wrecks (the "Eliza and Hester" and the "Pomona") have actually taken place this winter while the ships lay at anchor in the

* Laid before the House of Commons in answer to Address.

harbour. The loss of a single vessel or cargo, therefore, might have got the Consulate-General into trouble, had such a protest been treated lightly. There might have been difficulties both with the merchants and Insurance Offices. The protest was duly registered then in the books of the Consulate-General, and the usual fees charged upon it. Every ship having different owners, different merchants, and different insurances, a great number of certified copies were required. It made a good deal of work, and an extra clerk was employed about it.

The fees paid on protests are regulated by the number of certified copies required, that is, by the actual notarial work done. There is an additional charge also fixed by the tariff for noting and extra words. The fee for a simple protest and certified copy is 11., or about 6 roubles 80 kopecks, the rouble being now equal to rather less than 3s. Seventeen captains protested, but many of them had previously obtained their clearances and left without paying fees at all. The payment of the fees was entirely optional; no fee is ever enforced.

By dint of persevering exertions, and mainly in consequence of the protests made, I succeeded at last in obtaining a temporary suspension of the obnoxious order against lights and fires though the law still exists unaltered and may be put into force again at any time. I was informed by Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi that a proposal had been made among the shipmasters to present me with a snuff-box for my exertions on their behalf, but I declined it.

I should add that I have done everything in my power to prevent shipmasters making protests at the Consulate-General except in very serious cases, such as shipwreck. It often happens that a shipmaster will occupy a whole day with a confused and disjointed narrative for a protest, to the disturbance of all other office business, and then object to pay a fee; or he will pay it and afterwards ask for his money back again.

The expenses which shipmasters must, in any case, incur at Odessa are very large; and when they have been guilty of excesses, or their money runs short, they resort to all manner of expedients to make up plausible accounts for their owners. A case in point was told me yesterday by a notary in large practice here. A British shipmaster had incurred an account of 150 roubles for notarial services. When it was presented the shipmaster disputed every item, and haggled so long for a reduction that the notary at last agreed to take off a few roubles to get rid of him. Then he changed his plan, and had the effrontery to ask a receipt for 200 roubles to deceive his owners. Shipmasters cannot do such things at a Consulate, and hence their dissatisfaction. Too few ports do a lower class of shipmasters come than to Odessa. Five out of six are uneducated colliers from Shields or Sunderland.

3. With regard to the case of the "San Francisco," it is one of those in which a shipmaster seeks to escape the consequences he has reason to apprehend from his own misconduct by inventing a charge against the Consul.

The articles of the barque "San Francisco" were endorsed by Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi (as will appear by their examination) and ready for delivery immediately the bill of lading, which is necessary for the trade Returns, was presented at the Consulate-General. No fee of any kind was ever asked or accepted from the master of the "San Francisco," nor from any one connected with the ship. The vessel was not detained at all. She left Odessa without any clearances whatever on the same day that the master first applied for his articles at the Consulate-General. The following are the circumstances which took place.

On the 10th of December last the master of the "San Francisco" came to me. I had never seen him before, nor had any communication with him, nor with any person belonging to the ship.

I was quite overwhelmed by business on that day. There were, as my Returns will show, thirty-six British vessels in port. There had been three wrecks (the "Havelock," the "Eliza and Hester," and the "Begbie"). Their crews were waiting to be reshipped. As they had been paid off by bills on the owners, and there was no money, I was obliged to provide them with food, lodging, and necessaries. Not only my rooms, but the stairs and passages leading to them were blocked up with people. Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi was unwell and confined to his house, though able to attend to business there. An extra clerk, the only aid obtainable, was occupied with some complicated proceedings with the local authorities, relative to the sale of the wrecks by auction. I was, therefore, nearly alone, having only the assistance of Henry Bradley, messenger.

When the master of the "San Francisco" called, I was engaged in examining a case of mutiny which had occurred on board a Maltese vessel called the "Westbrook." The crew had seized the ship and imprisoned the master on the high seas. The case was urgent, and could not be put off, for the master of the "Westbrook" had formally declared

his life in danger, and his merchants had protested. These facts are provable by the Consular books. The business of taking depositions in a case so important will hardly bear interruption. No work can be properly done by a man who tries to do more than one thing at a time, and who does not keep order and method in his business in time of pressure. I sent out word to Paige, therefore, that I would see him presently. He was then in the office and not in the street, as the language of his complaint would imply. He answered in a loud voice that he should not wait. I then left the case of the "Westbrook" and went to him, holding, as he says, the door of my private room in my hand; for it was absolutely impossible to attend to him, and I wished to make the interview as short as possible. When he explained who he was and what he wanted I answered, "Three o'clock is the time for clearances; but go to the Vice-Consul, he manages the shipping business." I had no time to waste words, and I then closed the door. Russian doors are not easy to shut; I may have slammed it, but certainly not with any ill humour. A man engaged in magisterial duties, properly understanding their nature and responsibility, keeps his head cool. He is in no mind to slam doors.

Mr. Paige had not far to go to do as he was bade. The Vice-Consul's house is about three minutes' walk from mine. It is called "Domo Cortazzi," and is one of the best known houses in Odessa. It is still nearer to the port than mine. It must have been well known to Paige, the Consular Office having been situated there for two years, and he says he has traded nine years to Odessa. The words "British Consulate-General" are written up in large letters facing the port.

Mr. Paige, however, would not take the answer I had given him. He forced himself into my private room, and interrupted the proceedings which were going on there. He behaved in a most disorderly and riotous manner. I warned him repeatedly to desist, and at last he went away shouting and grumbling, and I returned to the case of the "Westbrook," thinking I had got rid of him.

In a little while, however, Paige returned, and again forced himself into my private room, though civilly requested by the messenger to wait in the office. He brought a note from the Vice-Consul. When I had read it, I said, "You need not take any Consular papers unless you please; but the Vice-Consul wishes to have a voucher that he has warned you of the possible consequences, as there has lately been a case in this sea, where a vessel was detained many days from not taking proper papers."

There was a long correspondence on this subject between the Governor-General of Southern Russia and my predecessor. I also took down the Consular Instructions, and read Mr. Paige the paragraph in which Consuls are directed to point out to shipmasters any inconvenience likely to arise from their neglecting to take the usual clearances. He said that was all nonsense, for some one at the Port of London had told him no clearances were necessary. They were, he added, only a pretext for extorting fees. I then asked to see his bill of lading. There is no fee for inspecting a bill of lading; but it is necessary for the preparation of Consular Trade Returns. Paige refused to produce his bill of lading; calling out that I had no right to demand it. I told him if he did not produce his bill of lading I should report him to the Board of Trade. Paige then began to abuse me in the most improper manner. He was determined to create a disturbance. He used such intemperate language and such threats that I was driven out of the room to avoid him; and at last I was obliged to send the office messenger for a policeman. I told Paige what I had done (it was the only word I spoke in answer to his rudeness, as he admits); so, after attempting to bully me some time longer and shaking his fist at me, he went away before the policeman came. Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi informs me that Paige had a dispute with the Consulate on his last voyage to Odessa. He is one of those troublesome half-educated men known among sailors as a sea-lawyer.

When he was gone I sent a note to the consignee of the "San Francisco," stating exactly what had occurred. That step was necessary, partly as a matter of courtesy, and partly as a precaution to protect myself, for shipmasters often find a pretext to remain in port many days after they are ready for sea, and I did not know what might happen next. Paige, however, left Odessa the same evening; and, as he admits, no attempt was made to detain nor to molest him in any way. I assumed no undue authority; I acted without heat or anger, just as any one may have done under like circumstances in London. A violent man burst into my room, and abused and threatened me in discharge of my duties. He interrupted my business. He made a riot; and I sent for a policeman to keep the peace. It would be impossible to carry on the duties of the office, and to deal with thirty or forty north country colliers and their crews at a time without some means of protection against personal violence. A few days since Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi was stabbed at his desk and wounded in the hand for refusing money to a sailor.

The office of the Consulate-General was closed when Mr. Ralli called on me. The office hours are from 9 till 3, as may be known by a placard on the door. The hours of business here among the merchants are from 10 till 2; so that their convenience is well considered. I was at dinner when Mr. Ralli came; but I saw him at once. He declined to be answerable for Paige's peaceable behaviour. I did not press the subject. I had almost forgotten it. Mr. Ralli did not state that the "San Francisco" had sailed, nor was I aware of it. He produced no authority from Paige. He refused to show his bill of lading, but demanded the ship's articles as consignee.

The Vice-Consul objected to deliver them to him in that character. It is not the practice to give up ship's papers to the consignee. From the master they are received, and to him they are returned. In a port like Odessa it would be impossible to foresee all the mischief which might arise from giving them to any one else. There are constant disputes between shipmasters and their merchants. There are a great many Greek houses of indifferent character at Odessa. They might use such an important possession as a ship's papers to obtain some unfair advantage.

It was impossible to break through a good rule for Mr. C. T. Ralli. To make a distinction of the kind for any merchant would be to offend all the rest, and become liable to unpleasant imputations. Moreover, there was evidently a disposition to coerce me, which it appeared right and prudent to resist.

Mr. C. T. Ralli now changed his tone, and demanded the articles of the "San Francisco" as sole owner of the ship; I believe he is so, although I did not then suspect it. It was explained to him that in this case a question would arise whether the "San Francisco" was a British vessel at all. But an attempt was made to accommodate Mr. Ralli, and, aided by the Consular instructions, the Vice-Consul drew up a receipt for him to sign, which would have enabled the Consulate-General to comply safely with his request. Mr. Ralli refused to sign that receipt or any other. He seemed bent on giving as much trouble as possible; and it was necessary to use great caution in dealing with him.

Subsequently Mr. C. T. Ralli contradicted his previous statement; and again declared himself merely the consignee of the "San Francisco." He then sent the bill of lading with a note from Paige, and the articles were immediately handed to his clerk. Had Mr. Ralli acted straightforwardly—mentioned at once the departure of his ship, or produced Paige's authority—he would have had no difficulty. I treated him, in spite of his repeated misstatements and the needless trouble he gave, with the utmost consideration and politeness.

It is only proper to add that Mr. C. T. Ralli does not belong to the firm of John Ralli and Co., which is one of the first mercantile houses in Odessa. Mr. C. T. Ralli (who has lived some years in Manchester) has the reputation of being a litigious man, and rather a sharp practitioner. About a month before the "San Francisco" sailed, Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi told me Mr. Ralli had said publicly at the Casino, British Consuls could not claim fees, and he would never pay any. From what I can learn, the whole affair seems to have been preconcerted; but instead of contenting themselves with refusing to pay fees, which was a very simple thing, Messrs. Paige and Ralli determined to set the Consular regulations altogether at defiance. It was reported to me that even an Austrian master had been placed in command of the "San Francisco," and that proposals had again been made to transfer the command of her to the master of the "Havelock," after the wreck of that vessel. No notice, however, was given at the Consulate-General, and I do not know whether she left Odessa with the Austrian master or not.

Respecting the whole of my proceedings referring to the "San Francisco," I consulted with the Austrian Consul General, a gentleman of great experience, who has resided for many years at Odessa, and who has to deal with shipping interests far larger than those of England here. I moved step by step with his advice and concurrence; and I was influenced solely by a desire to act in the strictest conformity with the Consular Instructions. I venture, therefore, to express a respectful hope that the course I took may be approved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Certificate of Entrance and Clearance according to Law.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Bill of Health.

(Royal Arms.)

WE, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff, do hereby declare and certify that the
 called the _____, master, is bound from
 this port of Odessa, _____ loaded with _____
 with a crew composed of _____ persons, including the master, according to the
 muster-roll, and that no pestilence or contagious disease exists at this port or in its
 vicinity.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal of office.

At Odessa, this _____

Consul

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

Certificate of Origin.

(Royal Arms.)

WE, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff, do hereby declare and certify that the
 called the _____, master, is bound from
 this port of Odessa, _____ loaded with _____
 with a crew composed of _____ persons, including the master, according to the
 muster-roll, and that the said loading is the produce of the Russian Empire.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal of office.

At Odessa, this _____

Consul

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

Table of Consular Fees to be taken in pursuance of the Act 6 Geo. IV, cap. 87, and of an Order in Council dated 1st May, 1855.

PART I.

Fees to be taken in respect of matters in which the Consul's interposition is required by Law.

Matter in respect of which the Fee is to be taken.

FEE.
£ s. d.

For every declaration made before the Consul in Forms B, C, F, G, H, and L, in the Schedule to the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, with a view to the registry, transfers, and transmission of ships, interests in ships, or mortgages on ships	0	5	0
For indorsing a memorandum of change of Master upon the certificate of registry ..	0	2	0
For granting a provisional certificate of registry (this fee to be exclusive of fees on declarations)	0	10	0
For recording a mortgage of a ship, or shares in a ship, made under a certificate of mortgage	0	10	0
For recording the transfer of a mortgage of a ship, or shares in a ship, made under a certificate of mortgage	0	7	0
For recording the discharge of a mortgage of a ship, or shares in a ship, made under a certificate of mortgage	0	7	6
For every sale of a ship, or shares in a ship, made before the Consul under a certificate of sale	0	10	0
For inspection of the register book of transactions in ships	0	1	0
For every seaman engaged before the Consul	0	2	0
For every alteration in agreements with seamen made before the Consul	0	2	0
For every seaman discharged or left behind with the Consul's sanction	0	2	0
For every desertion certified by the Consul	0	2	0
For attesting a seaman's will	0	2	0
For examination of provisions or water, to be paid by the party who proves to be in default	0	10	0
For every salvage bond made in pursuance of 17 and 18 Vict., cap. 104, sec. 488, to be paid by the master or owner of the property salvaged	2	0	0
On disbursements in respect of distressed seamen, a commission of	2½	p. cent.	

PART II.

Fees to be taken in respect of matters in which the Consul's interposition is to be given only when required by the parties interested.

Matter in respect of which the Fee is to be taken.

FEE.
£ s. d.

For noting a protest, with certified copy if required	0	5	0
For order of survey, with certified copy if required	0	5	0
For extending a protest or survey, with certified copy if required	1	0	0
And if it exceeds 200 words, for every additional 100 words	0	2	6
For preparing and attesting bottomry or arbitration bond	1	0	0
For attesting bottomry or arbitration bond not prepared by Consul	0	5	0
For attendance, out of Consular Office, at a shipwreck, or for the purpose of assisting a ship in distress, or of saving wrecked goods or property, over and above travelling expenses per diem	1	1	0
For attending valuation of goods, if under £200 in value	0	10	6
For attending valuation of goods, if £200 and upwards in value, for every day's attendance during which the valuation continues	1	1	0
For attending sale of goods if the purchase money is under £200	1	1	0
For attending the sale of goods if the purchase money is £200 or upwards, for every day during which the sale continues	2	2	0
Certificate of due landing of goods exported from the United Kingdom	0	9	0
Bill of Health	0	10	0
Visé of Passport	0	2	0
Opening of will of a British subject, not being a seaman	1	1	0
Management of property of a British subject, not being a seaman, dying intestate, a commission of	2½	p. cent.	
Registration of documents, or other matters.	0	2	6
And if exceeding 100 words, for every additional 100 words	0	0	6
For every certified copy of a document not before mentioned	0	2	6
And if it exceeds 100 words, for every additional 100 words	0	0	6
For administering an oath or declaration, including attestation of signature if required	0	2	0
For attesting a signature	0	2	0
For annexing the seal of office and signature to any document not mentioned in, or otherwise provided for by, this Table.	0	5	0

Note 1.—No fee is to be taken for the custody of, or indorsement on, Ships' Articles and papers deposited with the Consul in pursuance of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, section 279.

Note 2.—Where any fee is fixed by the foregoing Tables for any particular act or transaction, no additional fee is to be demanded for signature, attestation, or annexing seal of office.

Note 3.—The above fees, if not paid in English money, are to be calculated at the current rate of exchange.

Inclosure 5 in No. 11.

Extract from the Register of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.

THE protests of George R. Armitage, master of the "Louisa Marion," against the Supreme Consular Court at Constantinople, for having charged an account of 14*l.* and not having given the master the particulars, but merely said it was due. For not having endorsed on the articles that all deserters wages had been paid to the Court. For having erased or crossed a protest made and signed by him in the Consular-book after he had paid for it. For giving convicted deserters their clothes left on board the ship so that the Consular fees might be swelled and the shipping interest injured.

*Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General,
Odessa, May 5, 1858.*

(Signed)

GEORGE ARMITAGE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 11.

Protest against the Order forbidding Lights and Fires in the Port of Odessa.

(Royal Arms.)

BY this public instrument of protest, be it known and made manifest unto all people that on this sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, personally came and appeared before me, Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff (here follow the names of the shipmasters and ships), who did duly and solemnly declare and state as follows, that is to say:—

We protest against the order that we have received this morning, the sixth day of November, from the Commandant of the port, that from and after this date no fires nor lights are to be allowed on board our vessels.

In the first place, there is no suitable place on the mole fit for the cooking of the shipping in the harbour, and the Government has not provided any establishment on shore close to the shipping fit for the masters or crews to live in; and the business of the masters will not allow them to reside in the city, especially at this season of the year, when the presence of the masters and crews are required on board of their vessels for their safety and protection.

Particularly so as the quarantine mole is not a safe place for ships to lay in, as there are now several ships that have received damage during the past week.

Many men amongst our crews are now suffering from colds; and if we are not permitted to have fires on board of our ships many of our crews will perish in consequence. We further state that we will not hold ourselves responsible for the merchants' cargoes, while alongside our vessels, if we are not allowed to have fires and lights on board of our vessels for the comfort of ourselves and crews. During the present boisterous season we often require lights to examine the condition of the lighters and the fenders for the protection of our ships and cargoes; and if this notice that is now given to us (not knowing whether it is a law or not) is carried out, we will neither be answerable to the merchants nor underwriters for the results that may follow.

The winter has now commenced, and it seems impossible for us to submit to such regulations, especially at this inclement season of the year, and only one day's notice given to us to make preparations for cooking on shore, and no fit establishment to do it in.

We solemnly protest against it, trusting that the Government will see the reasonableness of our request to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, and trusting that he will see our grievances redressed as soon as possible.

(Here follow the signatures.)

British Consulate-General, Odessa, November 6, 1858.

To all to whom these presents shall come, I, Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff, do hereby certify that the paper writing hereunto annexed, purporting to be a copy of a protest bearing date the sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord

one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, is a true and correct copy of the said protest which was made and declared before me, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office this sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 11.

Vice-Consul Cortazzi to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

My dear Sir,

December 10, 1858.

CAPTAIN PAIGE has come to me and demanded his articles, stating at the same time, that he requires no Consular papers of any kind. I have informed Captain Paige that he incurs a great responsibility in leaving without Consular papers. Captain Paige states that he will take that responsibility on himself.

I have requested Captain Paige to state his wishes in writing.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK A. CORTAZZI.

Inclosure 8 in No. 11.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Ralli.

Sir,

December 10, 1858.

I AM sorry to inform you that I have been compelled to apply to the Police authorities for protection against R. Paige, master of the barque "San Francisco," which, I understand, is consigned to you; the said Paige having forced himself into my private room, used violent threatening language, and otherwise so grossly misconducted himself as to place my clerk and myself in bodily danger.

His behaviour was so riotous as entirely to obstruct the pressing business of my office, and to prevent two British vessels from obtaining their clearances in proper time.

Under these circumstances it is probable that Paige will be placed under the observation of the police until he furnishes a guarantee that he will conduct himself peaceably during the remainder of his stay in Odessa.

Your assurance, Sir, however, to that effect, either verbal or written, or Paige's own promise to behave himself in an orderly manner, with a lecture from you, will, I trust, meet the exigencies of the case. But as it is a very serious one, I am unable, with so large a fleet of British ships in port, to pass the matter over altogether without notice.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 11.

Memorandum.

December 11, 1858.

MR. RALLI has been for the "San Francisco's" papers. As I do not know Mr. Ralli just let me know if it will be right to let him have them.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Frederick Cortazzi, Esq.,

Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul.

Reply to the above Memorandum.

My dear Sir,

December 11, 1858.

THE rule always observed is to give the captains themselves their papers. The captains are obliged by law to bring their articles in person, and within forty-eight hours. It is therefore but right to deliver up to them their articles.

The articles belong to the captain, and nobody but he has any business with them.

The consignee of a vessel has nothing whatever to do with ships' papers. His business is confined to the loading and discharging of the vessels consigned to him.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., Yours, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK A. CORTAZZI.
&c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 10 in No. 11.

Form for Receipt.

I, C. T. RALLI, Esq., of this city of Odessa, merchant, do hereby acknowledge to have received the articles of the barque "San Francisco," and at the same time declare myself to be a partner of the owners carrying on business in England.

Inclosure 11 in No. 11.

Captain Paige to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir, "San Francisco," Odessa, December 10, 1858.
PLEASE to deliver to my consignee, Mr. C. T. Ralli, the ship's articles of the barque "San Francisco."

I am, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD PAIGE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 11.

Certificate.

I HEREBY certify that the articles of the barque "San Francisco" were ready for delivery within an hour after Mr. Ralli's clerk brought the bill of lading to this office.
British Consulate-General, January 27, 1859.

(Signed) HENRY BRADLEY.

Inclosure 13 in No. 11.

Vice-Consul Cortazzi to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

My dear Sir, December 11, 1858.
I THINK it advisable that Mr. Ralli, or the person who receives the articles in the absence of the captain of the "San Francisco," should give a receipt for the same, in case the Board of Trade should request the articles at a future period, we have then the receipt to prove how they left our hands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. A. CORTAZZI.

Inclosure 14 in No. 11.

Receipt.

I HEREBY acknowledge that I have received the articles of the "San Francisco," without any fee or remuneration whatsoever having been demanded of me, at Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General.

For C. T. Ralli and Co.
(Signed) L. MAVROCORDATO.

Odessa, December 13, 1858.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1859.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, a despatch, together with its inclosures, from Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa,* containing his answer to a statement of Mr. Paige, the master of the barque "San Francisco," of London, which appeared in the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette," of the 3rd of January, and sent herewith.

I am to request that you will move the Lords of the Committee for Trade to favour Lord Malmesbury with their opinion upon Mr. Murray's answer to the above-mentioned complaint; and I am to request that, as these papers are sent in original, they may be returned to this office when done with.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

Mr. Booth to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 9.)

*Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Marine Department, Whitehall,*

March 8, 1859.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, transmitting a despatch and its inclosures from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, containing his reply to a statement by Mr. Richard Paige, master of the British vessel, "San Francisco," which was published in the "Shipping and Mercantile Gazette of the 3rd January last.

In compliance with the Earl of Malmesbury's request to be favoured with my Lord's opinion on this case, I am desired to offer the following remarks.

With regard to Captain Paige's complaint of his personal treatment by the Consul-General, my Lords do not think it necessary, considering the nature of the statement and the Consul's Report, to offer any observation.

There are, however, two points in connection with the Consul-General's proceedings, to which my Lords desire to call the Earl of Malmesbury's attention.

1. The fees charged for the petition of the masters and others against the port regulations at Odessa, which prohibit the use of fires on board vessels in the harbour; and—

2. The detention of the ship's papers of the "San Francisco."

1. In the absence of any statement by the Consul-General in his despatch of the actual amount of the fees demanded by him from Captain Paige and the other persons who signed the petition, or who afterwards required copies of it, my Lords are left to infer that the fees were charged as for a notarial protest, and that each signature was deemed by the Consul-General as constituting a separate and distinct protest, and charged accordingly.

If my Lords are correct in assuming that this was the case, the Consular fees were not, in their opinion, in accordance with the regulated scale. They think it doubtful whether, considering the object of the petition, that document could properly be deemed to be a protest within the meaning of the Consular instructions, and if it could not be so considered, the fees charged should have been the fees chargeable by the Tables for the Consul's seal of office and signature to the original document: viz., 5s. and a fee of 2s. 6d., and of 6d. for every 100 words over the first 100 in respect of each certified copy required.

But even assuming the document to have been a notarial protest, the fees should not in my Lords' opinion, have exceeded the following:—

	£	s.	d.
For noting and extending the original protest	1	5	0
For the words excess of 200, being 300, at 2s. 6d. per 100	0	7	6
	£1	12	6
For every certified copy after the first, 2s. 6d.; and 6d. for every 100 words in excess of 100; say, together, for each copy	0	4	6

Whereas, if Captain Paige's statement is true, the sum of 25 roubles, or about 3*l.* 15*s.*, was paid by each person who signed the document.

With regard to the detention of the "San Francisco's" ship's papers, the Consul's explanation does not appear satisfactory.

The reason for his refusal to deliver the articles, viz., that Captain Paige would not produce the bills of lading, was no justification of his proceeding.

Her Majesty's Consuls have not, so far as my Lords are aware, any power to compel the production of bills of lading, still less to enforce their production by the detention of the ship's papers, which are deposited with them under the Merchant Shipping Act for very different purposes.

The papers inclosed in your letter are returned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES BOOTH.

No. 14.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Booth.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1859.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, containing the opinion of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, requested in my letter of the 21st of February last, as to the propriety of the fees levied by Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa in the case of the barque "San Francisco;" and as to the detention of the papers belonging to that vessel.

The Lords of the Committee will have observed that Mr. Paige states that the Consul-General charged each person who signed the Protest a fee "amounting to somewhere about 25 roubles," and that "as eighteen to twenty shipmasters" signed the paper, the fees amounted to a large sum.

Lord Malmesbury requests, therefore, that if it be practicable Captain Paige may be called upon to furnish more precise information as to the actual amount of the fees levied by Mr. Murray on the occasion in question, in order that he may be required to refund the excess of the charge made by him.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 15.

Mr. Booth to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 1.)

*Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Whitehall, March 31, 1859.*

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 17th instant, requesting that my Lords would endeavour to obtain from Captain Paige, of the "San Francisco," more precise information as to the actual fees demanded by Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, which formed the subject of his complaint, I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Malmesbury, the accompanying copy of a reply from Captain Paige upon the subject.

I also inclose copy of a reply from Mr. Robinson, another master who was at Odessa at the same time as Captain Page, and who states that he paid upwards of 40 roubles as fee for the Protest signed by masters of vessels lying in Odessa Harbour.

My Lords are endeavouring to obtain information from other masters touching the fees in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES BOOTH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Captain Paige to Mr. Johns.

Sir,

Plymouth, March 21, 1859.

IN reply to your request to furnish you with vouchers of fees paid Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa on account of the barque "San Francisco" under my command, I beg to inform you that I paid no fees whatever, having refused to take the papers he wished to compel me to take, viz., a bill of health, a certificate of origin of the cargo, and a certificate of entry, registration, and clearance, they being all unnecessary and useless; in consequence, the Consul-General refused to deliver me the ship's articles, and I sailed without them, expecting to have found them in the hands of the Board of Trade, on my arrival in England; but it appears that after my departure the Consul-General reconsidered the matter, and handed the articles to the consignee of the ship, who forwarded them to my owners in London.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD PAIGE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Mr. Robinson to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

Liverpool, March 25, 1859.

A PROTEST being sent in to the Consul-General at Odessa by the shipmasters to assist them to keep their fires on board their vessels—the Consul promised to assist us, and the Consul said it would cost us nothing; and when we cleared out he made me pay for a Protest, but I do not remember what it was, but I know it was above 40 roubles. My ship being small and only having seven hands, including myself, I refused to pay it, and he said he would not give me my papers. I said if he would give me a receipt for my money I would pay, as it would not do to stop a ship at that time of the year, he told me the copy of Protest sent in was my receipt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. H. ROBINSON.

No. 16.

*Mr. Farrer to Mr. Hammond.—(Received June 27.)**Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Whitehall, June 25, 1859.*

Sir,

WITH reference to former correspondence on the subject of the fees demanded by Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, in the case of the British barque "San Francisco," I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for trade to transmit to you, to be laid before Lord John Russell, the accompanying replies that have been obtained from the masters of various other vessels respecting the Consular fees charged at that port.

I am to request that in calling Lord John Russell's attention to these documents you will point out that the question is no longer confined to the propriety of the fees demanded by Mr. Murray in respect of a certain protest signed by several shipmasters at Odessa which formed the subject of remonstrance on the part of Captain Paige, and was alluded to in this Board's letter of the 8th March last.

The letters and inclosures now forwarded appear to disclose the existence of a very lax and objectionable practice in the Odessa Consulate with regard to the manner in which the accounts of Consular fees are made out and furnished to shipmasters, rendering it impossible for those who pay, or for the Foreign Office, or the Board of Trade, to whom they may appeal, to form any judgment whether the charges made are correct or not.

The following List shows the fees paid at the Odessa Consulate on eleven voyages by the vessels named:—

				Tons.		Equal to		
					Rbbs. c.	£	s.	d.
John Baring	..	..	..	547	36 75	5	16	0
Guisachan	..	..	..	474	11 70	1	15	0
William Brown	..	..	..	439	36 45	5	15	0
Griffin	..	..	..	378	17 22	2	14	0
Kate Evelyn	..	..	..	369	14 96	2	7	6
"	(on a former voyage)			..	10 0	1	12	0
Ivy Green	..	..	..	360	37 39	6	0	0
Zuleika	..	..	..	330	11 70	1	15	0
Beecher Stowe	..	..	..	322	36 45	5	15	0
"	(on a former voyage)			..	14 34	2	2	0
Ariosto	..	..	..	278	35 85	5	7	0
						40	18	6

The average being about 3*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* per ship per voyage.

The complaints of the masters regarding the above charges are various.

The masters of the "Kate Evelyn," 369 tons, and the "Beecher Stowe," are charged 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and 5*l.* 15*s.* for one voyage, when on a previous voyage they paid only 1*l.* 12*s.* and 2*l.* 2*s.* respectively.

The "John Baring," 547 tons, pays 5*l.* 16*s.*, whereas the "Guisachan," 474 tons, is charged only 1*l.* 15*s.*, the only difference known to the master of the former vessel being a sum of 4*s.* paid by him for two engagements and two discharges.

Another master (Joy Green) asserts that he was charged for a certificate of origin which he never had.

The grievance generally is that masters never know what they are paying for, as no details are given in the accounts furnished to them, and my Lords are of opinion from the statements forwarded, confirmed as they are to a great extent by the original accounts furnished by the Consulate, that there are good grounds for complaint both of the amount of the fees charged, and of the manner in which the accounts are rendered.

It is possible that there may be reasons accounting for the extraordinary differences in the amounts of the fees charged on the same vessels for separate voyages, and on vessels of the same tonnage; but without any particulars before them my Lords find it difficult to discover upon what principle these charges are made, or for what specific acts performed.

My Lords would accordingly suggest that all the papers (of which copies have been kept in this Department) should be forwarded to the Consul-General, and that he should be requested to return them with a full explanation; and if the present system of Consular fees is to continue, my Lords would further suggest that the Consul-General should be instructed to give in all cases a written receipt for all fees paid to him, on which each item charged for should be separately stated according to the authorized Table.

The Consul should further be directed to keep a record of each account furnished, and of each specific item charged for in case of complaint on the part of masters or owners.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. H. FARRER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Captain Paige to Mr. Johns, March 21, 1859.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 15.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Captain Paige to Mr. Johns.

Sir,

Halwell, South Pool, April 7, 1859.

IN reply to your note of the 5th instant, I beg to state, that I have been so long confined to my room by most severe illness, that I am not now able to supply you with the information you desire; but if the Board of Trade will only apply to the owners of any of the British ships that cleared at Odessa during the month of November last, they will no doubt furnish them with the vouchers supplied by the Consul-General, which will

fully bear out my statement of there having been a large increase of fees at Odessa since the appointment of the present Consul-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD PAIGE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Mr. Johns to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir, *Local Marine Board, Plymouth, April 9, 1859.*
I BEG reference to your letter of the 4th instant requesting me to ascertain from Captain Paige the names of any other British vessels which were at Odessa at the same time as the "San Francisco," and beg to transmit herewith Captain Paige's reply to my inquiry.

The papers, in the case of an overcharge of fees at Odessa, are returned inclosed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. JOHNS, *Shipping-Master.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Mr. Robinson to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London, March 25, 1859.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 15.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Mr. Williamson to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir, *19, Nelson Street, Sunderland, March 26, 1859.*
YOUR letter of the 24th instant to Mr. John Beal, master of the "Zuleika," of London, respecting the Consular charges of that vessel at Odessa, has been handed me. The "Zuleika" sailed hence for Leghorn on the 21st instant; her Consular charges in Odessa are as under:—

Consular fees, &c. on "Zuleika" (331 tons), 2nd December, 1858, entrance, registration, clearance, bill of health, certificate of origin, 11 roubles 70 copecks (at exchange of 6 roubles 72 copecks, will be 1*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*)

Whether the above charges are correct or not, I cannot say, but I have no complaint to make on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) THOS. WILLIAMSON,
Owner of "Zuleika."

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Mr. Preston to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir, *Liverpool, May 5, 1859.*
I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 2nd instant, and, in reply, I beg to say the Consular charges at Odessa on my barque "Ivy Green" were very excessive, amounting to the sum of nearly 6*l.*, which on a very low freight is a most serious item.

At foot I inclose a copy of the account for your information; but whether these charges are according to law or not, I am unable to say. I find that of late the Consular charges are everywhere very heavy; but as, in most cases, no specific account is given, it is difficult to find out whether they are in excess of what is allowed by law to these gentlemen for doing nothing.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. PRESTON.

Consular Fees on "Ivy Green"

Entrance and clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	} Rbs. c.
Bill of health	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Certificate of origin	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Attendance out of office	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Registration of copies of notices from and to merchants	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Registration..	..	..	..	..	..	..	} 37 39
1 shipment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

I had no certificate of origin.

E. P.

Inclosure 7 in No. 16.

Mr. Bull to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

189, High Street, Sunderland, May 4, 1859.

IN reply to yours of the 2nd instant, I beg to say I have to complain of the heavy charges made at Odessa by the British Consul for the brig "Ariosto," 278 tons register, official number 4,667. The amount of Consul fees is 35 roubles 85 copecks, at the exchange of 6 roubles 7 copecks per 1*l.* sterling, is 5*l.* 7*s.*, which I think is a very exorbitant charge on a small vessel, there being no change of crew or any extra duty to perform.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOS. BULL.

P.S.—The receipt is dated 8th November, 1858.

Inclosure 8 in No. 16.

Mr. Brown to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

North Shields, May 5, 1859.

IN reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, I beg to inclose you the British Consul's account for the "Griffin" at Odessa, amounting to 17 roubles 22 copecks, in order that you may judge for yourself whether or not the charges are high.

For John Dale,

Your, &c.

(Signed) P. BROWN.

Consular Fees on "Griffin."

Entrance Registration; clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	} Rbs. c.
Bill of health	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Certificate of origin	..	..	..	..	..	..	
1 shipment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
1 discharge ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
S of L. B.	..	..	..	..	..	..	} 1 87
Certifying ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Certifying desertion and entry in log book	..	..	..	..	..	..	} 17 22

Inclosure 9 in No. 16.

Mr. Avery to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

North Shields, May 4, 1859.

IN answer to yours of 2nd instant, I beg to inform you that the "Beecher Stowe" (official number 2,140), paid at Odessa last voyage to the amount of 36 roubles 45 copecks, no account being given as to what those charges are; a slip of paper with the Consulate stamp and amount of charges being all that is given. The former voyage of same vessel, the fees are 14 roubles 34 copecks.

Our "Kate Evelyn" (official number 7,276) was at Odessa last December, the fees

being 14 roubles 96 copecks. The master asked why he had to pay more than his former voyage, which was 10 roubles; the clerk told him he was not bound to satisfy him.

I am, &c.
For Jane Avery,
(Signed) ROBT. B. AVERY.

Inclosure 10 in No. 16.

Mr. Crutwell to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

North Shields, April 27, 1859.

YOURS of the 15th is duly at hand and contents noted. In reply, I beg to inform you that, while at Odessa in November last, I had to pay the Consul 36 silver roubles and 75 copecks, 25 roubles of which I consider was an overcharge; but being in a hurry to get away with my vessel, I paid it.

Inclosed I also beg to hand you the Consul's receipt for the barque "Guisachan," in June last, which the owner has lent me, and which please return. The only difference which ought to have been in the "John Baring's" account was the discharge of one seaman and shipping another; in all, 4s.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) JOHN CRUTWELL,
Master of the ship "John Baring."

Address:

John Swan, Esq.,
150, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

Consular Fees on "Guisachan," June 16, 1858.

							Rbs. c.
Entrance Registration; clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	} 11 70
Bill of health	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Certificate of origin	..	..	..	..	..	..	
(Signed) FREDERICK A. CORTAZZI, <i>Vice-Consul.</i>							

Inclosure 11 in No. 16.

Messrs. T. and O. Swan to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

North Shields, May 7, 1859.

IN reply to your communication of the 2nd, we have to state that Captain Crutwell, of the ship "John Baring," paid 36 silver roubles 75 copecks as fees to the British Consul in Odessa, without giving particulars, and we can form no idea for what it was, or whether we have been overcharged; but we know other vessels of her size did not pay half that amount.

We are, &c.
(Signed) T. AND O. SWAN.

Inclosure 12 in No. 16.

Mr. Hall to the Registrar-General of Seamen, London.

Sir,

*Local Marine Board, 2, Deane Street, Cork,
June 9, 1859.*

IN acknowledging receipt of your favour of the 7th instant, I beg to say I immediately called at the office of Mr. Cantillon, who kindly permitted me to examine the disbursement account of the "William Brown" whilst at Odessa. The items of the Consul's account are not given, neither is there a voucher attached for the amount. The entry is made as under:—

Consular fees, 36 roubles 45 copecks; but nothing to explain what the charges were for.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN H. HALL, *Shipping Master.*

No. 17.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1859.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of February last, on the subject of the fees demanded by you in the case of the British barque "San Francisco," I am directed by Lord John Russell to transmit to you herewith an extract of a letter from the Board of Trade,* inclosing statements which have been received from the masters of several other British vessels respecting the fees charged by you at Odessa.

From these papers it appears that the grievance generally and justly complained of is, that the shipmasters are required to pay a large amount of fees without receiving accurate statements of the services for which those charges are made. The Board of Trade have also found it difficult to account for the extraordinary variations in the amount of the fees charged by you on the same vessels for separate voyages, and on vessels of the same tonnage, and they have been at a loss to discover upon what principle or for what specific acts the charges are made.

I am, therefore, to instruct you to furnish to Lord John Russell a full explanation of your transactions, in connection with the statements contained in the inclosed papers, which, being sent in original, you will return to this office.

I am also to desire that you will give for all fees paid to you a written receipt on which each item charged for must be separately stated according to the authorized Table; and in order to provide for the possibility of complaints being made on the part of masters or owners, you will keep a record of each account furnished, and of each specific item charged for by you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 18.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1859.

I AM directed by Lord John Russell to communicate to you the following Regulations, which have been agreed upon between his Lordship and the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, for the guidance of those members of the Consular service who have been, or may hereafter be, instructed to collect, on account of Her Majesty's Government, such fees as they may, by Act of Parliament or otherwise, be authorized to levy within their Consular districts.

A daily cash account of the fees collected, giving the description of every fee, should be kept by each Consul, and at the end of each quarter the total amount of fees collected within that quarter should be carried into the Consul's account with Her Majesty's Treasury, by a single entry in that account, under the head of "Fees Received," in support of which the Consul will transmit with his account a statement of particulars copied from the Fee Cash-book, and certified by him as being a true account of all fees leviable.

The Consul will, as soon after the termination of each quarter as possible, remit to this Department, for transmission to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury a bill in favour of their Lordships for the amount in sterling money of the fees which the Consul has received during that quarter; and under this arrangement the Consul will take credit, on the discharge side, of his annual account for the amount of fees remitted in each quarter.

It will be the duty of the Consul to make the above Regulations known to those Vice-Consuls within his district to whose case they may apply, and he will instruct them

to remit to him in like manner, quarterly, the amount of fees received by them, accompanied by a cash account and certificate similar to that which the Consul himself is directed to furnish. The amount of the Vice-Consul's fees will, in this case, be inserted in the Consul's account, and will be transmitted by him, through this Department, to the Treasury.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 19.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Odessa, August 11, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Hammond's despatch dated 30th June, which only reached me this day, having been sent via Constantinople.

With reference to the extract of a letter from the Board of Trade, dated 25th of June, 1859, and the papers thereto annexed, now re-inclosed, I have the honour to state, that the Consular fees paid by British vessels do not depend on their tonnage.

Tonnage fees were abolished by the Act of 1825. A small ship, therefore, may incur a large fee bill, and a large ship, a small fee bill, or none at all. On one voyage a ship may be commanded by a steady master, and be manned by a good crew. There may be no disputes with merchants or brokers, no sickness, no rioting, no mischance. In this case few or no fees would be paid. On the following voyage an incapable, intemperate master, a disorderly crew, differences with merchants and brokers, hospital dues, prison dues, accidents, protests, declarations, surveys, a bottomry bond, an average bond, or many similar circumstances, may cause the expenses of the same ship to be comparatively large. The amount of the fees depends on the services rendered by a Consul. Those services are often a record of mismanagement, or something worse, on the part of the shipmaster, and there is thus often a great unwillingness to acknowledge them. In some cases the Consul is even obliged to make the master pay a fee for deciding a point against him; so that any statement against a Consul must always be taken with great allowance for these circumstances.

The complaints of the shipmasters in the present instance also appear to show that it is very generally felt as a grievance, a small ship should pay as much as a large one. Nevertheless, from the evidence taken before the Consular Committee last year, it did not appear desirable to re-establish the system of tonnage fees. The plain fact is, there is the same objection to the payment of Consular fees as to the payment of all other taxes. The parties interested would rather pay none at all.

I have already replied fully in my despatch dated 1st February last,* to the statements of Mr. Paige, whose vessel, the "San Francisco," is again here under command of a more peaceable master. According to Mr. Paige's own showing, no fees whatever were paid by him.

The charges in ships' accounts do not represent Consular fees only, but rather the sums paid through the Consulate. The sums for which receipts are given (for the convenience of captains and owners who otherwise could not obtain receipts at all), include hospital dues, which are here arbitrary and very high, prison dues, telegrams on ships' business, messages, postages (ships' letters being nearly always directed to the Consul), and money advanced in case of urgent need. When the Consular account appears high, it is almost invariably in consequence of circumstances wholly unconnected with the fees.

Thus, in the case of the "John Baring," there were disputes between the master and his crew. The ships' account was increased by prison dues. On one occasion four of the crew were in prison at once; and one man, who had previously been in prison at Constantinople, remained in prison at Odessa, if I remember rightly, from the arrival of the "John Baring" on the 4th of October, till her departure on the 15th November.

The assertion of the master of the "Ivy Green" that he was charged with a certificate of origin which he never had, must be untrue. There could have been no possible reason for withholding this paper; and if such an improbable mistake had been made, it would of course have been rectified as soon as mentioned.

The account of the "Ariosto" was partly increased by a protest. When the master made some objection to it, not only were the fullest explanations given to him, but his

money was immediately returned him, and all his papers delivered gratis. Afterwards, however, having been probably better advised, he voluntarily brought back the money.

The statement of G. M. Robinson, who dates from Liverpool, but does not give the name of his ship, nor any other particulars, is sufficiently refuted by the statements of the other shipmasters.

Thomas Williamson, of the "Zuleika," expressly states that he has no complaint to make.

The account of the "Guisachan," which cleared June 16, 1858, before my appointment, compared with the account of the "Zuleika," which cleared on the 2nd December, 1858, after my appointment, will show that no increase in the fees charged for the same services took place after my arrival.

The business transacted here is far too great to allow the Consul-General himself to manage the fee business. But it appears impossible that any overcharges could have been made, for the simple reason that a large Fee Table (inclosed in my despatch dated the 1st February*) always hung up in the office, and every captain who paid a fee could at once see whether it was correct or otherwise. A reference to this Table gave him immediately an accurate statement of the Consular services for which only he could be charged, and acquainted him with the precise sum he was required to pay. Further explanations were needless.

The assertion that any ship's articles were ever stopped at this Consulate-General on account of the master's refusal to pay a fee is absolutely groundless and untrue. Certainly no shipmaster who ever came to Odessa in my time can maintain the contrary. Indeed, this is plainly proved by the fact that if any ship's articles had been so detained they must have been sent to the Board of Trade, and none have ever been sent there.

I am most heartily glad that the new regulations respecting the fees levied at this Consulate-General relieve me of all personal interest in them. This is a great relief and a great advantage; for it will henceforth enable the Consul-General to serve ship-owners heartily, because no suspicion can attach to the motives by which he may be guided in the efforts he makes on their behalf.

I have, since receipt of your Lordship's despatch, caused the office of this Consulate-General to be removed to my private residence, and conducted, as far as practicable, under my own immediate superintendence. I have also directed that a written receipt, on which each item charged will be separately stated, according to the authorized Fee Table, shall be given for all fees paid here; and in order to provide for the possibility of complaints being made on the part of masters or owners, a record will be kept, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, of each account furnished and of each item charged.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 20.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Booth.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1859.

WITH reference to your letter of the 25th of June last, I am directed by Lord John Russell to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa,† containing explanations as to the fees levied by him on certain British vessels at that port.

In laying this despatch before the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, I am to request that you will state to their Lordships that on the 14th July Mr. Grenville-Murray was instructed to collect henceforward, on account of Her Majesty's Government such fees as he may by Act of Parliament or otherwise be authorized to levy within his Consular district, and to furnish a record of every fee thus levied by him.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

As to the Legality of a Marriage solemnized by a German Protestant Clergyman, at Kieff, between Mr. Oakley and Miss Fletcher, both British Subjects.

No. 21.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20)

My Lord,

Odessa, October 1, 1862.

MR. RICHARD FAIRLAND OAKLEY, an English engineer residing at Kieff, has written to me to say that he was married by a German Protestant clergyman on the ^{27th August,} 8th September, 1861, to Elizabeth Fletcher, also a British subject; but that not having fulfilled any of the usual formalities before any British authority, nor having registered his marriage, he desires to know whether the said marriage is legal, and his child, issue of the said marriage, is legitimate according to British law, or if the said marriage be illegal and the child illegitimate in consequence of the irregularity of the marriage, whether he can now take any steps to legalize the said marriage and legitimate his child.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 22.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 25, 1862.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 1st instant, inquiring as to the legality of a marriage solemnized by a German Protestant clergyman between Mr. Richard Fairland Oakley and Miss Elizabeth Fletcher, both British subjects, none of the usual formalities before any British authority having been fulfilled, and the marriage having been left unregistered; and I am to instruct you to report to his Lordship what is the bearing of the Russian law on this case.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 23.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord,

Odessa, February 10, 1863.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch dated October 25, 1862, instructing me to report to your Lordship what is the bearing of the Russian law upon the case of Mr. Richard Fairland Oakley, who was married by a German Protestant clergyman, but who left his marriage unregistered, and did not fulfil the usual formalities before any British authority, I have now the honour to inclose to your Lordship a despatch which I have received from General Jukowsky, Acting Governor-General of New Russia and Bessarabia, who has made inquiry into the subject, and who informs me that the said marriage is considered perfectly legal in Russia.

I have, therefore, the honour to request that your Lordship will furnish me with

instructions necessary to relieve the minds of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley from the heavy load of anxiety which is now weighing upon them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure in No. 23.

General Jukowsky to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Direction of the Governor-General, December 23, 1862, o.s.

THE Evangelical Lutheran Consistory informs me that a marriage concluded in Russia by a reformed clergyman between two British subjects is considered by the Russian Government as legal, according to Law, vol. xi, section 1, Civil Code, published in 1857, established by the church authorities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church which is acknowledged in Russia; and the Church of England belongs to the same class of Evangelical Institutions, and that Lutheran clergymen can, therefore, fulfil all the religious duties of that Church according to the direct meaning of the said law.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) JUKOWSKY.

No. 24.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1863.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Acting Governor-General of New Russia and Bessarabia, stating that the marriage solemnized by a German Protestant clergyman between Mr. Richard Fairland Oakley and Miss Elizabeth Fletcher, both British subjects, is considered perfectly legal in Russia; and I am to state to you that his Lordship has no instructions to give you on this subject, as it would seem incumbent on the parties themselves to procure legal advice thereon, and to obtain proof in Russia of the validity of their marriage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

[For subsequent correspondence on this subject, see the General Correspondence commencing at page 141.]

Alleged Ill-treatment of Miss Owen by Mr. Grenville-Murray :
1865.

No. 25.

Sir A. Buchanan to Earl Russell.—(Received February 20.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, February 15, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which has been addressed to General Kotzebue, the Governor-General of Southern Russia, by a British subject at Odessa, complaining of ill-treatment on the part of Mr. Consul-General Murray. General Kotzebue, being at present at St. Petersburg, sent the letter to Prince Gortchakoff, and his Excellency communicated it privately to me, in order that I might take such steps in the matter as I might think expedient, as the complaint of the writer appears to have been brought officially before Baron Vilho, the Governor of Odessa.

Under these circumstances, I have thought it right to forward the letter to Mr. Consul-General Murray, in order that he may have an opportunity of enabling me to explain the circumstances to which it refers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 25.

Miss Owen to General Kotzebue.

(Traduction.)

Odessa, le 22 Janvier, 1865.

NOUS demeurions, ma sœur et moi, avec notre mère, veuve d'un ingénieur mécanicien, Anglais d'origine, William Owen, ayant honorablement servi pendant vingt-cinq ans de sa vie au Département de la Marine de la Mer Noire.

A la mort de notre père nous nous trouvâmes dans des circonstances bien difficiles, et qui ne furent qu'aggravées par la maladie de notre mère décédée le 11 Janvier.

La maladie de notre mère et la misère nous amenèrent à la nécessité de nous adresser au Consul-Général d'Angleterre, Mr. Grenville-Murray. Il nous envoya un médecin, mais tout en venant voir notre mère, il se permit des inconvenances vis-à-vis de moi auxquelles je dus résister.

Le 8 Janvier il arriva à cheval, entra chez nous une cravache à la main, et sans ôter son chapeau avança jusqu'au lit de ma mère. "Comment pas encore morte?" s'écria-t-il à haute voix, et s'approcha ensuite grossièrement de moi. Notre situation malheureuse, la maladie mortelle de notre mère, m'obligèrent à reprimer ma colère, et je continuai à causer avec deux dames venues pour avoir des nouvelles de notre malade. Il changea de ton aussitôt, me pria de venir à lui, en disant qu'il avait à me parler; mais, dès que je me fus approché, il me saisit par la main, et se mit à me donner des coups de cravache, tout auprès du lit de ma mère. Je criais de douleur et de rage, je me débattais, mais en vain, et ce n'est que lorsqu'il entendit que j'allais porter plainte contre ses procédés qu'il lâcha prise et s'enfuit de l'appartement. Les dames et notre domestique qui assistaient à cette scène, stupéfaits, ainsi qu'effrayés de la conduite brutale de Mr. Grenville-Murray, n'osèrent point me porter secours. Mais ils témoignèrent de la vérité de mes assertions dans la supplique que je présentai à ce sujet au Baron Vilho le 13 Janvier.

Je crains que, quand même on arriverait à une décision au sujet de ma supplique, cela ne puisse se faire de si tôt et ne nécessite ma présence à Odessa, que je suis en train de quitter pour Kieff, où j'ai une sœur mariée qui suppléerait à mon dénuement. Mais

par contre, je ne voudrais pas voir Mr. Grenville-Murray échapper au châtement qu'il a si pleinement mérité. Ce n'est point cependant de l'argent que je demande pour dédommagement de l'attentat commis contre ma personne ; l'honneur est mon unique trésor, et je ne le marchanderai pas.

J'implore votre Excellence de me remplacer un père, et de prendre ma défense vis-à-vis de Mr. Grenville-Murray, auquel je n'ai jamais donné la moindre raison de manquer d'égards envers moi. Son procédé sous les yeux de ma mère ne put qu'accélérer le moment de sa mort, sa maladie étant des palpitations de cœur.

De votre, &c.
(Signé) ADELAIDE OWEN.

No. 26.

Sir A. Buchanan to Earl Russell.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, March 15, 1865.

I HAVE much satisfaction in forwarding herewith to your Lordship the copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul-General Murray refuting the charges brought against him in a letter communicated to me privately by Prince Gortchakoff, and of which I inclosed a copy to your Lordship in my despatch of the 15th ultimo.

I have read Mr. Murray's despatch to the Vice-Chancellor, who begged me to leave it with him, that he might communicate it, as an act of justice to Mr. Murray, to General Kotzebue, the Governor-General of Southern Russia, from whom his Excellency had received it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Odessa, February 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's confidential despatch, dated 15th February, which reached me yesterday, referring to a complaint brought against me by Miss Owen, and I have the honour to give my unqualified denial to all and to every one of the statements contained therein. At the same time it is my duty to offer your Excellency my thanks for the kind opportunity which you have given me to explain the matter. The following are the facts of the case :—

About six weeks ago, two sisters, named Caroline and Adelina Owen, called at my office, and were received by Mr. Zohrab, Her Majesty's Consul at Berdiansk, who has been here for some time on special service. As they asked, however, to see me, I was sent for.

Caroline Owen made a complaint against her sister. She said that Adelina's conduct towards their dying mother was not only horrible and unnatural, but that her behaviour was so scandalous that she (Caroline) could not live in the same house with her ; that she (Adelina) had tried to stab her brother with a knife, and in the attempt had seriously wounded him in the face ; and that she (Caroline) did not consider her own life safe. Caroline Owen added, that men were constantly coming to the house and behaving in so shocking a manner that, as her sister and herself had only one room, it was intolerable to her. She had therefore brought Adelina to the Consulate to make this complaint against her in her presence. Adelina did not deny the truth of these statements. Caroline Owen then implored my protection.

I tried to make peace between them, telling them how shocking it was that they should be quarrelling, particularly at a time when they were about to lose their mother and to be left alone in the world ; but I failed completely to reconcile them.

The Owen family have been known to me about five years, but my intercourse with them has been confined entirely to acts of charity. Whenever a clergyman passed through here I begged him to call and remonstrate with them on their reputed evil way of life ; and lately, on hearing from Mr. Melville, agent of the Bible Society here, that Mrs. Owen was dying, I requested him to call and administer to her the last consolations of religion.

Feeling, moreover, some natural compassion for the abject misery in which they were, I called myself a few days after the sisters had been at my office, to restore peace amongst them if possible, wishing to employ their mother's influence for that purpose at so solemn a moment; but it was too late; her body and legs had already begun to swell; she was sinking fast and speechless. I was leaving the house when Caroline Owen again began to cry and complain of her sister, and to implore my protection. She said that no one's life was safe with Adelina, and that a servant of Mr. Ralli was constantly there for immoral purposes, and was coming again that afternoon.

I then spoke to Adelina Owen very seriously, and told her that if any one in the employ of Mr. Ralli was annoying her sister by improper conduct, I should feel it my duty to speak to Mr. Ralli on the subject. I said, also, that if her brother complained to me of her having attempted to stab him, I should have her taken into custody by the police and prevented from doing harm to anybody. She then became very violent, and struck at me, but her sister pinioned her and held her back. I gave her a lecture on her improper behaviour, and went away. I did not take any further notice of the subject, as no official complaint of the attempt to stab was made to me, and Mrs. Owen died a few days afterwards.

On the 11th February I received a letter (copy inclosed) from Augustine Owen to excuse himself and the rest of his family from having taken any part in making a false charge which he stated his sister Adelina had brought against me, and this was the first I heard of it.

I should mention that when Mrs. Owen died, Mrs. Zohrab, who is here with her husband, was kind enough to go to them and inquire if any charitable assistance could be rendered to them by means of a subscription among the English residents here. But she, with another lady resident at Odessa, who was good enough to assist her, found at once that the Owen family was in such bad repute that no one would take part in it, and they were obliged to abandon the attempt to render the Owens even temporary relief.

With respect to the general character of the Owen family, it is well known, not only at Odessa but at Sebastopol and Nicolaieff, in both of which places they resided for some time. It is as bad a character as can be. It appears that the mother of these girls was not the wife of the deceased engineer, who had a legitimate wife living in England; and the girls were very badly brought up. Some years ago, one of the daughters had an illegitimate child, which she took one night to the door of the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity and left it there, where it died from cold and exposure. The girl was arrested and sent to prison for this crime, and she then made an attempt to prove that she had been seduced by a Russian gentleman of mature years and high respectability. It subsequently, however, was shown that the girl was a prostitute who went to strangers at hotels. It appears also, from two of Mrs. Owen's letters, which I inclose, that she was under the impression, on her death-bed, that her daughters had endeavoured to poison her.

If your Excellency should consider any further proof necessary as to the character of Miss Owen, or of the charge brought against me, I shall have no difficulty in obtaining it, as in a provincial town like this every one is well known, and the girl has led a scandalous life for a long time.

I have only to add that if Miss Owen ever ventured to bring her improbable story before Baron Vilho, lately Governor of Odessa, the Baron certainly never made any communication to me about it; but immediately on the receipt of your Excellency's despatch, I felt it my duty to call on M. Mitkoff, the present Acting Governor of Odessa, who informed me that indeed a petition had been received some time ago from Miss Owen, but after having inquired into it, it turned out to be, as he had indeed expected, an utter fabrication, and he therefore had not even thought it necessary to mention the subject.

Having now laid these facts before your Excellency, it may be right to add that I have reason to believe that the charge in question was got up by a low attorney's clerk, whose recent attempt to defraud a British subject was frustrated by me, and this opinion is confirmed by the circumstance that the girl is alleged to have made a petition in a language she can neither read nor write.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

*Mrs. Owen to Mr. Grenville-Murray.***My dear noble Consul,***Wednesday.*

I WISH to speak a few words to you, for yet on you depends my life.
 And send me a bottle of porter and one of wine, for those I have are poison.
 This is an effort which I beg you to excuse.
 Everlasting remembrance of gratitude.

(Signed) T. OWEN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 26.

Mrs. Owen to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

FORGIVE my unceremony. I want nothing but quietness. If you can with your influence put me anywhere for a short time where I could have attention and quietness, you would finish your noble work of bringing me to health. The Sisters of Mercy for a month.

Inclosure 4 in No. 26.

*Mr. Owen to Mr. Grenville-Murray.**February 11, 1865.***Sir,**

IT is with great indignation that I hear my sister Adeline has made false charge against you.

I wish to express my sorrow that a gentleman from whom my late mother, my sisters, and myself have received so much kindness, should be annoyed in this way.

My sister Adeline attacked me with a knife, tried to stab me and cut my face. She is a very violent girl, and did not behave well to my poor mother on her death-bed, scolding her for not dying soon enough, and constantly fighting with us all.

I hope, Sir, that you will not consider that the rest of my family have had anything to do with my sister's ingratitude and bad conduct towards you, whom my mother thanked for your kindness with her dying breath.

I remain, &c.
 (Signed) AUGUSTIN OWEN.

No. 27.

*Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 27.)***My Lord,***St. Petersburg, November 22, 1865.*

WITH reference to my reports to Earl Russell of the 15th of February and of the 15th of March last, relative to a charge brought against Mr. Consul-General Murray before the Police Magistrates of Odessa, I regret to say that I have received a letter from M. de Westmann, the adjunct of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which a copy is herewith inclosed, transmitting to me simply for my information a copy of a letter from the Governor-General of New Russia to Prince Gortchakoff, stating that Mr. Murray in his letter to me of the 28th of February last, of which a copy was forwarded to Earl Russell in my despatch of the 15th of March, has given an incorrect report of what passed between himself and M. Mitkoff, the Governor of Odessa, on the subject of the charge in question.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

M. de Westmann to Sir A. Buchanan.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

St. Pétersbourg, ce 19^o/₉ Novembre, 1865.

LE Prince Gortchakoff me charge de vous donner confidentiellement connaissance d'une lettre qu'il a reçue d'Odessa du Gouverneur-Général Kotzebue. C'est la continuation d'une affaire au sujet de laquelle le Chancelier a eu l'honneur de vous entretenir au commencement de l'année.

La présente communication est simplement pour l'information de votre Excellence.
(Signé) WESTMANN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

General Kotzebue to Prince Gortchakoff.

(Traduction.)

Odessa, le 22 Octobre, 1865.

VOTRE Excellence m'a transmis copie des explications présentées par le Consul-Général Anglais, Grenville-Murray, qui se rapportent à la plainte de la demoiselle Adelaide Owen, sujette Anglaise, pour sévices et coup, et dans lesquelles il tente de réfuter la véracité de la dite Owen, en citant principalement sa mauvaise conduite, ainsi que celle de la sœur, connues, selon lui, à toute la ville. Ces demoiselles, écrit-il, se trouvaient dans des liaisons criminelles avec beaucoup de personnes, et l'une d'elles a eu même un enfant naturel qu'elle avait abandonné à la porte de l'établissement des Sœurs de Charité, ce qui l'a fait mettre en prison.

Pour prouver que toute cette affaire ne mérite positivement aucune attention, il cite l'incident que c'est sous ce point de vue qu'elle a été considérée par les autorités locales immédiates. M. Mitkoff, faisant fonction de Gouverneur de la ville d'Odessa, écrit M. le Consul, lui aurait dit qu'après information il avait trouvé la plainte telle qu'il s'y attendait, c'est-à-dire, une pure invention, et avait jugé inutile d'y donner suite.

Quoique la plainte dont il est question m'ait été présentée à Pétersbourg, non sans quelques informations préliminaires nécessaires, je n'ai pu toutefois ne pas mettre en doute la véracité de ces informations en vue de la dernière déposition si explicite de Mr. Grenville-Murray. En effet il était impossible d'admettre une erreur, encore moins un mensonge, quand il en appelait au témoignage du premier fonctionnaire de la ville. Aussi mon étonnement n'en a-t-il été que plus grand lorsqu'à mon arrivée ici je vis que non seulement la plainte portée le 8 Février par la demoiselle Owen à M. Mitkoff n'était pas restée sans suite, mais qu'elle m'était encore soumise dès le 16 du même mois, accompagnée du témoignage de plusieurs personnes dignes de foi, ainsi que des voisins habitant la même maison que la demoiselle Owen, qui avaient positivement confirmé la vérité du fait exposé dans la plainte et s'engageaient de le confirmer devant une enquête formelle. Sur ma question au sujet de ce qu'il avait effectivement dit au Consul relativement à cette affaire, le Conseiller d'Etat Mitkoff me répondit, par rapport, que, lors de la présentation de la dite plainte par la demoiselle Owen, qu'elle avait accompagnée du témoignage écrit susmentionné, il avait vu Mr. Grenville-Murray et que ce dernier lui avait exhibé des lettres qui, selon lui, témoignaient de la conduite peu recommandable de la demoiselle Owen, mais que, ne trouvant cette assertion appuyée d'aucune autre preuve et considérant que l'accusation de Mr. Murray contre la plaignante n'avait rien de commun avec l'indigne traitement dont la demoiselle Owen avait été l'objet au chevet de sa mère mourante, et que depuis elle s'était mise sous la protection des lois du pays, M. Mitkoff avait cru devoir soumettre la plainte à mon appréciation.

D'après les informations les plus exactes ultérieurement recueillies par mes ordres, il a été constaté que la conduite de la sœur de la demoiselle Owen est en effet blamable, mais qu'elle n'a pas été poussée au degré décrit par le Consul.

Le fait concernant l'enfant naturel de la demoiselle Sophie Owen, sœur de la plaignante, ne se rapporte en rien à Adelaide.

Je suppose d'ailleurs que quelque légère qu'eût été la conduite de la demoiselle Owen, elle ne donnait pas le droit au Consul d'en venir envers elle à des voies de fait, et comme il n'y a aucun doute qu'il l'a frappée, elle doit obtenir la satisfaction que lui accorde la loi ; à quel effet, selon l'ordre prescrit rigoureusement par la loi, il aurait fallu procéder à une instruction formelle de l'affaire. Sur ces entrefaits il m'était parvenu que Mr. Grenville-Murray était prêt à lui donner une satisfaction à l'amiable, et j'attendais la déclaration de cette intention pour communiquer à votre Excellence ce qui précède ; mais

comme la demoiselle Owen ne se trouve pas à Odessa, et que l'époque de son retour est inconnue, l'affaire se trouve en suspens pour un terme illimité.

Je ne crois donc pas pouvoir différer plus longtemps d'exprimer l'opinion que l'infidélité de la déposition faite par Mr. Grenville-Murray quant à sa conversation avec M. Mitkoff est positivement mise au jour, et que la conclusion à tirer de ce fait peut être abandonnée à M. l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique près la Cour Impériale.

Veuillez, &c.

No. 28.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 29, 1865.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that on receiving the further statement inclosed in your despatch of the 22nd instant, respecting the charges brought by Miss Adelaide Owen against Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, I considered it necessary that a full inquiry should be made on the spot by a person of sufficient weight and consideration into all the circumstances of the case. And I have further to acquaint you that I have selected Mr. Stuart, Her Majesty's Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, to conduct this investigation.

I transmit to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Lord Lyons,* containing directions for Mr. Stuart's guidance in this matter, and I have to instruct you to inform Prince Gortchakoff of the steps taken by Her Majesty's Government, and to request that all proper facilities may be afforded to Mr. Stuart by the Russian authorities at Odessa.

The despatch to Lord Lyons will be sent by the messenger who leaves London to-morrow.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 29.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 29, 1865.

I TRANSMIT for your Excellency's information the accompanying copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,† from Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg respecting a complaint made by Miss Adelaide Owen, the daughter of an English engineer formerly in the Russian Service, of the ill-treatment which she had received from Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa.

Your Excellency will perceive from Sir A. Buchanan's last despatch that the complaint against Mr. Consul-General Murray is a very serious matter and cannot be allowed to rest as it now stands; and considering that the affair is now before the highest local authorities, as well as the Russian Government, Her Majesty's Government consider it due to them that a person of sufficient weight and consideration to investigate the matter should proceed to Odessa to make a searching inquiry into the whole affair. I have, therefore, to instruct your Excellency to desire Mr. Stuart to undertake this investigation, placing himself, on his arrival at Odessa, in communication with the Russian authorities for that purpose, and informing Mr. G. Murray of the purpose of his mission.

Should Mr. Stuart consider that the services of the Law Clerk belonging to Her Majesty's Consulate-General at Constantinople would be of advantage to him, I see no objection to his accompanying him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

P.S.—I also inclose, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Sir Andrew Buchanan,‡ instructing him to apply to the Russian Government, in order that all proper facilities may be afforded to Mr. Stuart on the occasion of his visit to Odessa.

C.

No. 30.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 11.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 6, 1865.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, informing me that you have considered it necessary that a full inquiry should be made on the spot, by a person of sufficient weight and consideration, into the charges brought by Miss Adelaide Owen against Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa; and that you have selected Mr. Stuart, Her Majesty's Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, to conduct the investigation.

I have also, in conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch, acquainted Prince Gortchakoff with the steps which have been taken by Her Majesty's Government in this matter, and have requested his Excellency to give orders that proper facilities may be afforded to Mr. Stuart, by the Russian authorities at Odessa, for the performance of the duty which has been intrusted to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 31.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1865.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo, I transmit, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Sir A. Buchanan,* reporting that he has requested that orders may be given to the Russian authorities at Odessa to afford proper facilities to Mr. Stuart in investigating the charges against Mr. Consul-General Murray.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 32.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 27, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a letter which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions contained in your despatch of the 29th ultimo, I have addressed to Mr. Stuart, requesting him to proceed to Odessa with a view to investigate the charges brought by Miss Adelina Owen against Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Mr. Stuart left Constantinople on his way to Odessa this afternoon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Stuart.

Sir,

Constantinople, December 26, 1865.

THE accompanying copies of two despatches and their inclosures, which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will make you fully acquainted with the nature of a complaint made by Miss Adelaide Owen of having been ill-treated on a certain occasion by Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa.

In accordance with the desire expressed by Lord Clarendon in his despatch, I have to instruct you to proceed to Odessa by the first suitable opportunity; and upon your arrival there to make a searching inquiry into the whole of the above disagreeable affair, placing yourself in communication with the Russian authorities for that purpose, and informing Mr. Grenville-Murray of the object of your mission.

As it might be inconvenient to Mr. Consul-General Logie to lose the services of his Legal Vice-Consul at the present moment, I have directed Mr. Fenton, one of the Second Secretaries of Her Majesty's Embassy, to accompany you to Odessa, and to assist you in whatever manner you may consider that he can most advantageously do so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, January 30, 1866.

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF has mentioned to me that he had received a letter from General Kotzebue, the Governor-General of New Russia, reporting the visit of Mr. Stuart to Odessa for the purpose of instituting an inquiry into the charges brought against Mr. Consul-General Murray by Miss Owen, a British subject, and requesting his Excellency's advice as to the course which he should pursue with reference to the complaint made to the authorities by Miss Owen.

Prince Gortchakoff said that if Miss Owen persisted in her suit against Mr. Grenville-Murray it might be impossible for General Kotzebue to prevent its being discussed in Court; and General Kotzebue had also some doubt as to whether he should not take the initiative, and cause a legal inquiry to be instituted into the case: but on the other hand he felt that such an inquiry would occasion great scandal, which he considered it would, if possible, be desirable to avoid.

Prince Gortchakoff having also said that he had abstained from answering General Kotzebue's letter until he could consult me on the subject, I replied that in your Lordship's despatch which I had communicated to him, respecting the charges brought against Mr. Grenville-Murray, you had stated that the matter could not be allowed to remain in its present position, and that you had, therefore, sent Mr. Stuart to Odessa, who, I understand, had stated to General Kotzebue on taking leave of him, that the law must take its course. It was evident, therefore, that there was no intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government to shield Mr. Grenville-Murray from the consequences of any improper conduct which could be proved against him; and with regard to the complaint made to the authorities at Odessa by Miss Owen, Her Majesty's Government could not wish that any means should be taken by the Russian authorities to prevent her obtaining such redress as the law might afford her; but it appeared to me that the case should be left to take its natural course without any exceptional interference on the part of General Kotzebue.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 5, 1866.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 30th ultimo, reporting your conversation with Prince Gortchakoff on the subject of Miss Owen's complaint against Mr. Grenville-Murray, I have to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government must wait for Mr. Stuart's report of the result of his investigation, which he was unable to complete in time to transmit it by the last messenger from Constantinople, before they can form an opinion as to the proper course to be taken in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 9.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 30, 1866.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of November last, I have the honour to inclose herewith two despatches which I have received under flying seal from Mr. Stuart, reporting his proceedings at Odessa, whilst engaged in the inquiry enjoined by your Lordship into certain charges against Mr. Consul-General Murray.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 24, 1866.

LORD LYONS having furnished me with copies of your Lordship's despatches of the 29th of November and of the 14th of December last,* with their respective inclosures, I started for Odessa on the 27th, and arrived there on the 29th ultimo, for the purpose of carrying out the inquiry enjoined by your Lordship into the various circumstances connected with the charge of assault brought by Miss Adelaide Owen, the daughter of an English engineer formerly employed in the Russian service, against Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at that port.

Your Lordship is aware that Lord Lyons instructed Mr. Fenton to accompany me on this mission, instead of the Law Clerk belonging to Her Majesty's Consulate-General at this capital. I beg to take the earliest opportunity of mentioning that Mr. Fenton's services and co-operation were at all times most readily given, and were of great use and assistance to me.

On the afternoon of our arrival we waited upon General de Kotzebue, the Governor-General of New Russia, who had received notice from St. Petersburg of my intended mission, and who expressed his readiness to give me every facility in his power for investigating the charges brought against Mr. Murray. His Excellency appeared to be under the impression that as between Mr. Murray and Miss Adelaide Owen, the affair had been amicably arranged and the charge withdrawn, but on this point it turned out that he had been misinformed. I observed that such an arrangement, even if it had taken place, would not preclude me from carrying on the inquiry; and that there remained, moreover, the serious charge which his Excellency had brought against Mr. Murray of having addressed a false report of the circumstances to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg.

The General assured me that Mr. Murray's report of his conversation with M. Mitkoff was certainly inaccurate, and maintained the accuracy of his own report to Prince Gortchakoff. To my suggestion that the best means of clearing up the discrepancy between M. Mitkoff and Mr. Murray would be for them to meet at his Excellency's house, in his presence and in mine, he did not at the time offer any objection, and it was left for future consideration.

His Excellency promised to furnish me with copies of the depositions which had been taken with respect to the alleged assault, and he courteously forwarded them to me in the course of the following day.

Upon his asking whether I was authorized to inquire into Mr. Murray's general conduct, or only into the charge in question, I answered that I had no authority whatever to extend my inquiries beyond the circumstances connected with that particular charge.

Immediately after our visit to General de Kotzebue I addressed a letter to Mr. Murray, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, informing him of my arrival, and requesting him to call upon me at the hotel, which he lost no time in doing.

I stated to him that it was my desire to conduct the disagreeable inquiry with which I was charged with every fairness towards him, and to give him an opportunity of interrogating any witnesses who might be called, and of contradicting or replying to any statement against him of which I might make use, mentioning, at the same time, that having determined not to accept any information confidentially from the Russian authorities to use against him, I must in like manner decline to accept any such information from him against them or in his own favour.

Mr. Murray assured me that on his part he would do all he could to facilitate the inquiry. He informed me that General de Kotzebue was mistaken in supposing that he had compromised the affair. More than one attempt had certainly been made to induce him to do so, but he had determined not to, as the charge against him was entirely devoid of truth, and was simply an attempt to extort money from him. As he had not before seen or heard of General de Kotzebue's Report of October 22nd, which formed the inclosure to Sir Andrew Buchanan's despatch of the 22nd of November last,† I showed it to him, and allowed him to take it home with him to copy. He expressed great surprise at its contents, declaring that he had not in any respect misreported his conversation with M. Mitkoff, and that he was firmly convinced of the accuracy of the entire statement contained in his own Report to Sir A. Buchanan of the 22nd [query: 28th‡] of February last.

When Mr. Murray came the next morning he repeated that there was nothing whatever in his original Report which he would wish to retract, and that he could give

* Nos. 29 and 31.

† No. 27.

‡ Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

me satisfactory proofs of the truth of all he had stated. He felt convinced that if I would take him to see M. Mitkoff, that gentleman, upon being reminded of the manner in which the conversation between them had occurred, would be obliged to admit the accuracy of his (Mr. Murray's) version of it.

It will, perhaps, be more convenient that I should reserve this part of the question until I shall have laid before your Lordship and commented upon the evidence which I collected relative to the charge of assault, consisting of the accompanying copy of a letter and its inclosures (as marked in the margin)* which I received from the Governor-General; of three other papers, as also marked in the margin; and of a summary which I have drawn up of such oral evidence as I obtained upon the subject.

The first of these papers requiring notice, in connection with the oral evidence, and with the previous complaint to General de Kotzebue, of which a copy was forwarded to Earl Russell in Sir A. Buchanan's despatch of the 16th of February last, is Miss Adelaide Owen's complaint to M. Mitkoff of the $\frac{8}{10}$ th February last (Inclosure No. 4). Upon comparing the two complaints, no material difference will be found as to the fact and nature of the alleged assault, but the statement that Mr. Murray had been in the habit of attempting to take liberties with her ("se permet des inconvenances vis-à-vis de moi") is not repeated in the second complaint; and whereas in the one she represents to the Governor-General that it is not for a pecuniary indemnity that she will barter her honour, in the other, to M. Mitkoff, she expressly applies for some such indemnity.

The description of the assault, as given by Adelaide Owen, was certainly confirmed in all its material points by her in her oral evidence, as well as by her elder sister, Caroline Owen, and by Madame Zempling, two of the eye-witnesses whom I had an opportunity of examining. The remaining eye-witness, Madame Druitrieva, was to have been brought to me by Miss Owen, but it was stated that she lived at some distance and that she could only talk Russian, and as she did not appear before our departure from Odessa, I thought it unnecessary to remain for another week there on the chance of seeing her.

The other two persons whose depositions are included in Inclosure No. 5, do not therein profess to have done more than hear the screams of the plaintiff, and as, whoever may have been in fault on the occasion, there can be no doubt that the young lady did scream, their evidence to that effect does not appear to be of much importance.

It would be unfair towards Mr. Murray did I not here mention that the immorality of the Owen family, and more particularly of Miss Adelaide Owen, the plaintiff, was admitted by the Russian authorities, as well as by various other persons with whom I conversed at Odessa; and that assuming the fact to be admitted, I did not permit him to attempt to prove it, as he was disposed to do, by questioning them on several disgusting points of detail. And although, as stated in the summary (Inclosure No. 13), neither of the two sisters varied in their evidence respecting the alleged assault, and both denied that they had ever been disposed to withdraw the charge, or to acknowledge its falsehood, yet there can be little doubt that at any rate Miss Caroline Owen, acting with or without the authority of her sister Adelaide, had in the course of last spring shown a desire to arrange the matter for money, and had requested a high Russian official to endeavour to manage it for her. That gentleman informed me that she had at one time gone to his office with her brother, and stated that the charge was false, and that she wished it to be withdrawn; but that she had afterwards returned to contradict her statement as to its falsehood. The plaintiff, Adelaide Owen, was at that time absent at Kieff.

As for the evidence of her brother, Augustin Owen, whether written (*vide* Inclosures 7, 8, 9, and 10, and also Inclosure No. 3 in Sir A. Buchanan's despatch of the 15th of March last), or oral (*vide* Inclosure No. 13), it is so contradictory, and his character is so utterly despicable, that in considering the charge of assault the whole of it may be blotted out as valueless.

A charge, however, arose out of this person's evidence, of perhaps a more serious nature than either of the other charges brought against Her Majesty's Consul-General, and it became my duty to inquire into the exact circumstances under which Augustin Owen had signed his sworn declaration (Inclosure No. 10). I therefore sent for the

* General Kotzebue to Mr. Stuart, December $\frac{18}{30}$, 1865 (eight Inclosures); M. Mitkoff to General Kotzebue, February $\frac{16}{28}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 1); Miss A. Owen to M. Mitkoff, February $\frac{8}{10}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 2); Depositions of Neighbours of Adelaide Owen (Inclosure No. 3); M. Mitkoff to General Kotzebue, April $\frac{1}{10}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 4); Mr. Augustin Owen to Mr. Grenville-Murray, May $\frac{30}{12}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 5); Mr. Augustin Owen to Miss Adelaide Owen, May $\frac{10}{12}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 6); Declaration on Oath by Augustin Owen, May $\frac{13}{12}$, 1865 (Inclosure No. 7); same Declaration in English, copied from original by Mr. Fenton; Declaration of Mr. W. F. Lyon, January $\frac{22}{23}$, 1866; Mrs. Zohrab's Memorandum of Conversation, March $\frac{16}{28}$, 1865; Summary of Oral Evidence taken by Mr. Stuart at Odessa.

original document, and questioned both Mr. Murray, and the two witnesses (Mr. T. G. Smith, of the Consulate, and the Rev. A. R. Blundell), whose names were attached to it, upon the subject. Mr. Zohrab, the attesting Consul, had some time since returned to his post at Berdiansk. The last few lines forming the certificate signed by him are said to be in his own handwriting. The preceding parts of the document, with the exception of the signatures, are in Mr. T. G. Smith's handwriting; and the process adopted is stated to have been, that Augustin Owen mentioned what he wished to say,—Mr. Murray adjusting his words into proper English, and Mr. Smith writing from Mr. Murray's dictation,—and ~~that~~ the whole was read over to Augustin Owen before signature.

Such appears to be the usual process adopted in drawing up papers of a similar nature at the Odessa Consulate; and the witnesses agree in declaring that in this instance Augustin Owen's signature was affixed of his own free will, and with a full knowledge of the contents. There is nothing, therefore, but his own unsupported testimony to the contrary; and I have already stated that I consider that to be worthless.

At the same time I cannot avoid expressing my regret that Mr. Murray did not depart from his usual practice on the occasion in question, and abstain from taking part in the composition of a document which so nearly concerned himself.

Mr. Lyon's Declaration (Inclosure No. 11), and Mr. Zohrab's Memorandum (Inclosure No. 12), together with the oral evidence received from Mrs. Bisset and Mr. Melville (see Inclosure No. 13), confirm the conviction which I have before expressed, that Caroline Owen has on more than one occasion declared the charge brought by her sister against Mr. Murray to be either false or exaggerated. On the other hand, during two separate examinations of the two sisters in Mr. Murray's presence, in which they did full justice to his former kindness to their late mother, they both consistently maintained their account of the manner in which the alleged assault had occurred; and their evidence was given with great warmth and apparent earnestness, and with occasional appeals to him as to its truth.

The witness, Madame Zempling, too, described the scene in German to Mr. Fenton, with much apparent simplicity and good faith. The alarm and agitation, however, to which this old lady acknowledged, may have caused her unwittingly to distort or exaggerate the facts.

On his part, Mr. Murray, in the different interviews which I had with him, persisted in his original statement respecting the occurrence, adding that fictitious charges of a similar nature were not uncommon in Russia, and that nothing could be easier than for a needy family of worthless character, encouraged, as he believed in the present instance, by certain Russian authorities who bore him ill-will, to conspire in such a manner against a person holding an official position with a view to extort money, and to agree as to the evidence to be given in support of the accusation: that by the payment of money he might over and over again have secured the withdrawal of the charge, but that there being no foundation whatever for it, he had invariably refused to listen to any proposal of compromise. He positively denied having exercised any influence whatever in obtaining the letters or affidavit from Augustin Owen, or having given money to any of the family since the occurrence, except upon one occasion when he had given 25 roubles to Caroline Owen, from feelings of charity and pity, after she had been to church at the Consulate and received the communion. This was some weeks or months after Mrs. Owen's death, and he stated that he then believed Caroline Owen to be penitent and in want, and the charge to have been withdrawn, as he had heard nothing of it for some time.

Several Russian authorities, including the Governor-General, told me that they had certainly been of opinion that Mr. Murray's best course would be to pay a sum of money to Miss Adelaide Owen, in order that the legal proceedings might be put a stop to, and that either directly or indirectly they had advised him in that sense. Their opinion seems to have been based upon the assumption that there was probably some foundation for the charge, and that it would be better to avoid the scandal of having it publicly brought forward against a person occupying his official position. Whether or not it occurred to them, as it naturally would to any Englishman, that such a course would imply an admission of guilt, it is impossible for me to say.

On weighing the whole evidence, I must confess that it is so conflicting that I am totally unable to form any decided conclusion as to whether any assault was committed by Mr. Murray or not. My impression is that if assault there was, it cannot have been a very serious one; and that if the case was brought before an English Police Court, the Magistrate would not refuse to send it to a jury, although he would not be prepared to dispose of it by a summary conviction. It was, to say the least of it, imprudent of

Mr. Murray to place himself upon terms of intimacy with a family like the Owens, although I saw no reason for supposing that his former kindness to them had been otherwise than disinterested. He could certainly have had no motive for assaulting the young lady, and it is difficult to believe that even in a moment of irritation he can have so far forgotten himself as to do so.

Under all the circumstances, I felt it right to inform the Governor-General, when taking leave of him, that I saw no other means of arriving at the truth than by suffering the charge to be fairly tried by the Russian judicial authorities according to Russian law; that there was no reason why my inconclusive inquiry should interfere with the natural course of justice, and that Her Majesty's Government would probably apply to the Russian Government for the Minutes taken of the proceedings at the trial.

It may be desirable to mention, as I did to General de Kotzebue, lest the Russian authorities might suppose that I had been a party to the proceeding, that on the second examination of the Owen family, which took place at my hotel (for the first a Russian official had obligingly allowed me to make use of his house), Mr. Murray was accompanied by a person who turned out to be a Russian lawyer. On the preceding day he had talked of bringing an interpreter, as the English of the young ladies was not very perfect; but I had understood him to abandon the idea, and to be perfectly satisfied with my offer to request the Rev. Mr. Melville to have the kindness to attend and to lend us his impartial assistance in that capacity. The presence, therefore, of a Russian lawyer, without previous notice to the Owen family or to me, caused me considerable surprise and annoyance, and shortly after discovering his professional character, I found it necessary to put a stop to the course of offensive and apparently irrelevant interrogatory which he had commenced. I need scarcely assure your Lordship that the incident did not prejudicially affect the interests of Miss Adelaide Owen and her sister in my estimation. When I afterwards informed Mr. Murray of the pain which it had caused me, he expressed his regret, and said that the person he had brought was the only thoroughly efficient interpreter in Odessa—not exactly a lawyer, there being no regular lawyers in Russia, but a person whom he was in the habit of employing in English cases—and that he had not known there would be any harm in bringing him.

Coming now to the second charge brought against Mr. Consul-General Murray,—the very serious one of having misreported his conversation with M. Mitkoff, then Acting Governor of Odessa, in a despatch to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, relative to the original accusation of Miss Adelaide Owen,—I regret to have to report to your Lordship, that with respect to this charge also, it was impossible to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion, as Mr. Murray persisted in the truth of his statement as stoutly as M. Mitkoff persisted in denying it; the former, however, having the advantage of desiring to meet M. Mitkoff in my presence, whereas the latter declined such a meeting, on the ground of its being a sort of confrontation inconsistent with the dignity of his position. On learning from General de Kotzebue, during my second interview with him, that this might be so, I obtained his permission to call upon M. Mitkoff in the first instance without Mr. Murray, and as his Excellency informed me that M. Mitkoff was not very fluent in French, I requested M. Ivanovski, a Counsellor of State, and Chief of the Diplomatic Chancellerie at Odessa,—to whom I was indebted for much obliging assistance during my stay there,—to accompany Mr. Fenton and me to M. Mitkoff's house. Mr. Murray had, two or three days before, addressed to me his letter of December 30, of which a copy is inclosed, stating that he distinctly remembered M. Mitkoff's having expressed himself in the manner reported.

During an interview of nearly two hours, I endeavoured to persuade M. Mitkoff to consent to the proposed meeting, besides questioning him very closely as to what had been the exact nature of his conversation with Mr. Murray. His knowledge of French was much greater than we had expected, and he was able to converse with so much fluency and clearness in that language that the good offices of the interpreter were seldom required. He answered my questions most readily, and with great apparent frankness, saying that, so far from his having made light of the petition of Miss Adelaide Owen, or having treated it as insignificant, his duty obliged him to act upon it in the manner required by law, viz., by referring it to the Governor-General, the case being one in which a foreign Consul was concerned; that he had no choice in the matter; that shortly after he received the petition he had requested M. Simon Gourawitch, a Russian gentleman of high commercial standing, who holds also the post of Danish Consul, to mention the circumstance to Mr. Murray, as a mutual friend, and to advise him to get it settled amicably (*"terminer l'affaire"*). He did not know whether M. Gourawitch had mentioned it or not, but Mr. Murray came to him a few days later, having in hand a despatch from Sir A. Buchanan, and amongst other papers one which he believed to be

Mr. Murray's draft of answer. M. Mitkoff continued, that not knowing that Adelaide Owen had previously addressed a complaint to the Governor-General, he was surprised that the affair had already come to the knowledge of the authorities at St. Petersburg; that he had not at that time himself looked carefully into it, but had only made himself acquainted with its nature, and that what he said to Mr. Murray was, that it appeared to be a dirty and disagreeable ("sale et désagréable") affair, and that he had better get it stopped ("vous ferez bien de la terminer"), as he, M. Mitkoff, would otherwise be obliged to act upon it in the manner described. He had always been upon the most friendly terms with Mr. Murray, and it was on that account that he wished the matter to be settled quietly. He had kept the petition for a week before forwarding it to the Governor-General.

I tried to find out from M. Mitkoff whether he might not have expressed himself with so much courtesy to Mr. Murray as to have been misunderstood, but he said that was impossible; and when the words from Mr. Murray's Report were read out to him in French, he wrote them down in Russian, and then answered "No, that Report is not true; I never said so. I could not have said so," &c. He added, that not having at the time made any inquiry into the charge, he could not possibly have told Mr. Murray that: after having inquired into it, it had turned out to be an utter fabrication.

It may be worth while to notice that it appears from Mr. Murray's despatch of the 28th of February, that his conversation with M. Mitkoff must have taken place on the preceding day, February $\frac{1}{27}$; that Miss Adelaide Owen's petition to M. Mitkoff (Inclosure No. 4) is dated on February $\frac{8}{30}$; and that the despatch of the latter (Inclosure No. 3) bears the date of February $\frac{1}{28}$, the day following the conversation, and the same day on which Mr. Murray's despatch was written, representing that M. Mitkoff had informed him that he had discovered the charge to be an utter fabrication.

I assured M. Mitkoff that Mr. Murray had no intention whatever of imputing to him any wilful inaccuracy, but felt convinced that in a friendly meeting the details of the conversation might be brought to his recollection in such a manner as to leave no doubt on his mind that Mr. Murray's version was correct; that I should be obliged to report to my Government that Mr. Murray was anxious to meet him with a view to exculpate himself, but that he had declined. This argument did not produce any effect upon M. Mitkoff. He replied, that I might report it, and that he would be ready to answer whenever an inquiry was ordered by his own Government; that he had told me nothing but the truth, and that he could only repeat the same if Mr. Murray was present; that he would not object to receive Mr. Murray alone and to say as much to him, but that he could not consent to a confrontation with that gentleman before a British authority.

I must admit that M. Mitkoff's simple and straightforward manner produced a very favourable impression upon me, and that this unwillingness to meet Mr. Murray in my presence, either at his own house or at that of General de Kotzebue, appeared to proceed entirely from the idea that the meeting, as having the air of a confrontation, would be derogatory to his position. He expressed his belief that his character for truthfulness was so generally known that I might go out into the streets and question the first comer about it.

After some further discussion, he gave way so far as to agree to receive Mr. Murray with me, if General de Kotzebue should be of opinion that he would be right in doing so. M. Ivanovski accordingly undertook to submit the question to the General on the following morning, and to inform me of the result. His Excellency, however, did not think fit to interfere in a matter which, according to him, depended upon M. Mitkoff's own feelings; nor did he see that any good would result from a meeting at which M. Mitkoff and Mr. Murray could scarcely do otherwise than persist in their respective statements. A copy of M. Ivanovski's letter informing me of the General's decision to that effect is herewith inclosed.

Whilst with M. Mitkoff, I took an opportunity of observing to him that he appeared to have been rather hasty in prejudging the charge of assault against Mr. Murray, as in his Report of April (*vide* Inclosure No. 6) to the Governor-General, he had talked of the "procédé vraiment indigne de Mr. Grenville-Murray," as if the charge had been already proved. He showed much surprise on hearing that he had made use of such an expression, declaring that he had certainly had no intention of expressing any opinion upon the merits of the case; that he had merely meant to refer to the proceeding of which Mr. Murray had been accused; and that the expression, which did not convey his meaning, could not have been accurately translated from the Russian. I said that the mistake was unfortunate, as it might have tended to prejudice Mr. Murray materially in the General's view of the case, and I begged M. Ivanovski to have the kindness to inform his Excellency of M. Mitkoff's present explanation of it.

It is due to Mr. Murray to state that he seemed much disappointed on learning that the proposed meeting with M. Mitkoff could not be arranged. He said he could have proved to me that in his Report to Sir A. Buchanan he had rather understated than exaggerated M. Mitkoff's expressions as to the insignificance of Miss Adelaide Owen's complaint; that M. Mitkoff had scarcely allowed him to talk of it during the conversation in question, treating it as of no importance, and proceeding to show him over his suite of apartments; that he (Mr. Murray) could refer me to other gentlemen to whom M. Mitkoff had talked of the affair in the same manner, but that these being Russian officials would no longer venture to give evidence in his favour, since the Governor-General had so far committed himself against him. He complained of being placed at a disadvantage by my refusal to receive the confidential information with which he could supply me. It appeared to me, however, that I should place myself, as well as him, in a false position, if I accepted information of which I could not make use, and which I should, therefore, have no means of verifying.

As reference had been made by both M. Mitkoff and Mr. Murray to M. Simon Gourawitch, I called upon that gentleman in company with Mr. Fenton and Mr. Murray; but he declined to give me any information officially upon the question at issue.

Feeling that a prolonged stay at Odessa was not likely to be attended by any satisfactory result, I determined to return to Constantinople by the weekly Russian steamer of the 6th instant, and went with Mr. Fenton to take leave of the Governor-General before embarking. His Excellency appeared to regret, out of regard for Mr. Murray's official position, that I was leaving the case for trial by the Judicial authorities.

With respect to the proposed meeting between M. Mitkoff and Mr. Murray, the General explained that he could not well order M. Mitkoff to consent to it, and that that gentleman would not consent otherwise. His Excellency was inclined to sympathize with M. Mitkoff's feelings upon the subject. He assured me that M. Mitkoff had, since seeing me, repeated to him most positively that he had told me nothing but the truth, not only as an official, but on his conscience as a Christian man. I answered that M. Mitkoff had certainly a right to look upon the matter from his own point of view; but that I could not help regretting his decision, as Mr. Murray continued firm in his conviction that a meeting would have resulted in his complete exculpation; that each now maintained his own assertion; and that, until it could be proved otherwise, Mr. Murray's statement must appear of equal weight to Her Majesty's Government as M. Mitkoff's to the Russian Government. Whilst strenuously supporting M. Mitkoff's truthfulness, General de Kotzebue appeared to understand this; he did not, however, believe that if there had been a meeting either gentleman would have drawn back an iota from what he had stated officially.

The further documents which I have the honour to inclose are the duplicate of a despatch from Mr. Murray, for which I promised to wait before drawing up the present Report, and a paper containing a few observations which I find it necessary to make upon that despatch.

It is possible that a person of greater judicial experience might have brought the inquiry with which I was charged to a more tangible and satisfactory conclusion; but I beg your Lordship to believe that, distasteful and painful as the task was to me, I endeavoured to perform it conscientiously, and without favour to any of the parties concerned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Mr. Stuart to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Hôtel de l'Europe, Odessa, December 29, 1865.

I BEG to inform you that I have come to Odessa from Constantinople by order of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of investigating the circumstances connected with a complaint against you, which appears to have been laid before the local authorities in the month of January last by Miss Adelaide Owen.

I shall be obliged to you if you will call at this hotel at 5 P.M. to-day, in order to confer with me upon the above disagreeable affair.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

P.S.—As I find that your house is at some distance from here, perhaps it will be more convenient to you to come to-morrow forenoon between 11 and 12.

W. S.

Inclosure 3 in No. 35.

General Kotzebue to Mr. Stuart.

Monsieur,

Odessa, ce $\frac{1}{30}$ Décembre, 1865.

POUR satisfaire au désir que vous m'avez exprimé, je m'empresse de vous communiquer ci-joint, en traduction, le dossier de l'affaire concernant les plaintes élevées à la charge de M. Grenville-Murray par la demoiselle Owen. J'ajoute la prière, après que vous y aurez puisé les renseignements qui vous sont nécessaires, de vouloir bien restituer ces pièces à ma Chancellerie Diplomatique; et je saisis, &c.

(Signé)

P. KOTZEBUE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 35.

M. Mitkoff to General Kotzebue.

(Traduction.)

Odessa, le $\frac{1}{28}$ Février, 1865.

LA sujette Anglaise, Demoiselle Adelaide Owen, m'a adressé en date du 8 Février courant, une requête par laquelle, se plaignant d'un grave outrage qu'elle aurait subi de la part du Consul-Général d'Angleterre à Odessa, M. Grenville-Murray, outrage qui aurait avancé le moment de la mort de sa mère, elle réclame une indemnité légale pour l'offense qui lui a été faite, en appuyant sa plainte par des témoignages de personnes présentes au fait.

En conséquence, j'ai l'honneur de soumettre à votre Excellence la susdite requête, avec les pièces y annexées, en conformité de l'Article 186 du XVe Tome du Code Pénal.

(Signé)

A. MITKOFF,

Faisant fonctions de Gouverneur de la Ville.

Inclosure 5 in No. 35.

Petition of Miss Adelaide Owen.

(Traduction.)

LE 13 du mois de Janvier écoulé, je présentai une requête à M. le Gouverneur de la ville d'Odessa, Baron Velhio, lequel, l'ayant agréée et ayant promis que justice me serait faite, me retourna la dite requête pour vice de forme, qu'en ma qualité d'étrangère j'avais omise par ignorance.

Dans ma requête j'exposais ce qui suit :—

Je vivais avec ma sœur Caroline après de notre mère, veuve de l'ingénieur mécanicien William Owen, qui avait vingt-cinq ans de service dans l'Administration de la Mer Noire. Après la mort de notre père nous nous trouvions constamment dans une pénurie extrême qu'augmentait encore la maladie de notre mère, arrivée à un état mental ce qui nous réduisit à une misère complète. Cette pénible position nous contraignit à nous adresser à notre Consul-Général à Odessa, Grenville-Murray, lequel nous envoya un médecin et nous fit quelques visites de temps à autres.

Le 8 Janvier de cette année, M. Grenville-Murray arriva à notre porte à cheval, entra dans notre appartement, sans notre permission, le chapeau sur la tête et une cravache à la main, et s'approchant du chevet de notre mère agonisante, il demanda à haute voix, de manière à ce qu'elle entendit ses paroles : "Quoi donc, elle n'est pas encore morte?" Ensuite il se tourna vers moi et sans parler aucune me dit des injures; après quoi me prenant la main il se mit à me frapper de sa cravache, ne prêtant aucune attention ni à la position de ma mère ni à mes cris, et continua de cette manière jusqu'à ce que je m'écriais, "Je porterai plainte aux autorités;" ce qui sembla produire sur lui une certaine impression, car il cessa alors et sortit de la maison.

Quoique l'état de ma mère n'inspirait aucun espoir de guérison, toujours est-il hors de doute que l'acte brutal de M. Grenville-Murray avança l'heure de sa mort. Elle mourut effectivement peu de temps après, le 11 Janvier, nous laissant ma sœur et moi orphelines sans protection. Il est affreux pour nous de nous rappeler le moment où notre mère agonisante fut témoin du traitement que M. Grenville-Murray fit subir à sa fille.

Tout ce qui précède s'accomplit en présence de ma soeur, de notre servante, et de deux dames de nos amis qui venaient parfois visiter ma mère, Varvara Dmitrieva, veuve d'un employé, et Thérèse Zempling, femme d'un marchand. Réitérant aujourd'hui ma plainte et me plaçant sans la protection des lois Russes, j'espère que votre Excellence voudra bien prendre en considération ma requête et me faire accorder une indemnité pour l'outrage que m'a infligé M. Grenville-Murray.

J'ai l'honneur d'annexer à la présente les attestations des susdites Dames Dmitrieva et Zempling, ainsi que celles de nos voisins MM. Koudinoff et Pankrateff, qui de leur local ont entendu mes cris et ont envoyé aussitôt pour apprendre ce qui se passait.

Odessa, le 8 Janvier, 1865.

(Signé) ADELAIDE,
Fille de WILLIAM OWEN, Sujette Anglaise.

Inclosure 6 in No. 35.

Depositions of Neighbours of Miss Adelaide Owen.

(Traduction.)

NOUS Soussignées certifions par la présente que la demoiselle Adelaide Owen a été effectivement battue en notre présence par un homme qu'elle nomme le Consul d'Angleterre et dont nous saurions reconnaître le visage. En foi de quoi nous délivrons le présent témoignage.

Signé à la demande personnelle de Varbara Andreevna Dmitrieva, veuve du Régistrateur de Collège, ne connaissant pas l'écriture.

Rue de la Quarantaine, Maison Mavrogordato, No. 12.

(Signé) X SEREBRIAKOVA.
THERESE ZEMPLING.

Nous Soussignés, voisins de Madame Owen, avons entendu de la chambre atterrante des cris perçants et nous avons envoyé en demander la cause. Il nous fut répondu que c'était le Consul-Général d'Angleterre, que nous avons vu quelques moments auparavant s'approcher à cheval de la demeure de Madame Owen, qui battait Mademoiselle Adelaide Owen. Par un sentiment d'humanité nous jugeames à propos de transférer Mademoiselle Adelaide chez Madame Koudinoff afin de la tranquilliser.

Maison Gerebtsoff, Rue Torgovaia, à Odessa.

(Signé) A. PANKRATEFF,
Capitaine en retraite, logeant chez le Conseiller de Collège Koudinoff.

Cette dernière attestation, que j'ai présentée conjointement avec ma requête au Gouverneur de la ville, Baron Velhio, en date du 13 Janvier, et qui m'a été retournée le 3 Février, année courante, pour vice de forme, a été signée aussi par le Conseiller de Collège Alexandre Koudinoff, parti pour Sebastopol.

Odessa, le 8 Février, 1865.

(Signé) ADELAIDE OWEN.

Inclosure 7 in No. 35.

Report of M. Mitkoff.

EN réponse à la lettre de votre Excellence du 7 Avril, No. 1366, j'ai l'honneur de porter respectueusement à votre connaissance que le 8 Février, année courante, la demoiselle Owen m'a présenté, en ma qualité de faisant fonctions de Gouverneur de la Ville d'Odessa, une supplique par laquelle elle se plaignait des procédés brutaux envers elle du Consul d'Angleterre à Odessa, M. Grenville-Murray, qui l'avait battue au chevet même de sa mère agonissante. A l'appui de sa plainte la demoiselle Owen m'a présenté l'attestation du fait par plusieurs personnes.

Avant de prendre aucune mesure, j'ai vu préalablement M. Grenville-Murray, qui m'a communiqué des lettres accusant d'après lui Mademoiselle Owen d'une conduite reprehensible. Ne trouvant aucun rapport entre l'accusation portée par M. Grenville-Murray contre la demoiselle Owen, et ses procédés envers elle formant le sujet de sa plainte, et n'ayant aucune preuve autre que celle-ci dessus de la conduite blâmable de Miss Owen, j'ai eu l'honneur de soumettre, conformément à l'Article 186 du XVe Tome du Code Pénal, la supplique de la demoiselle Adelaide Owen, le 16 Février à la décision de votre Excellence, en prenant en considération que sa plainte a été provoquée par le procédé

vraiment indigne de M. Grenville-Murray et qu'elle s'est placée sous la protection des lois du pays.

(Signé)

A. MITKOFF, *Conseiller d'Etat.*

Odessa, Avril 1865.

Inclosure 8 in No. 35.

*Mr. A. Owen to Mr. Grenville-Murray.**

Sir,

Odessa, May 12, 1865.

I WRITE to you to ask your advice to tell me if it is possible to save my family from the disgrace, reproch, and conversation respecting the forls charge which was made against you by my sister Adeline, and which is likely, should you report the prosidence (proceedings?) about to be taken her, to bring us all to shame and trouble.

Adeline as left Odessa for some time, and as I am now the head of the family I ask you to assist me, if possible, in putting an end to this scandal about my family, which prevents my obtaining any honest employment and dus great ingery to my caracter and prospects. I there for beg of you to aply to the Governor-General to withdraw the sade paper from the public archives, that this business, which is so painful to me and the other members of my family, may be at an end. I ashur you, Sir, that, had I not been withheld by family considerations, I should have aplide to you and have requested to you to have Adeline arrested for the atemnt which she made on my life as well as that of my sister Caroline; and I fil it hard thing that I and my sister Caroline should sufar from the bad conduct of a girl whom we have denounced (or disowned).

Hoping you will be able to relive us from this disgrace, I remain, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTIN OWEN.

Inclosure 9 in No. 35.

Mr. A. Owen to Miss Adelaide Owen.

(Traduction.)

Chère Sœur,

Le 10 Mai, 1865.

JE ne sais rien de cette affaire avec le Consul. J'ai écrit une lettre qu'il m'a dictée, ne sachant nullement que cela se fait sans ton consentement. Ce qu'il m'a dicté, je ne puis me le rappeler actuellement—le plus important du contenu de cette lettre, c'était d'annuler l'affaire. D'après tout on voit qu'il a peur et qu'il désire ardemment l'annuler au plus tôt, car cela ira mal pour lui. Il m'a promis pour cela de me donner un emploi et autant d'argent que j'en voudrais; comme je suis depuis tant de temps sans emploi, j'ai accepté avec plaisir les propositions amicales, ne me doutant nullement que c'était contre ton gré. Mais maintenant j'ai pensé à la chose, peut-être agit-t-il traîtreusement, et c'est pourquoi je t'adresse cette lettre. Malgré ses brillantes propositions je suis prêt à m'en dédire et à agir de concert avec toi.

Ton frère,

(Signé) AUGUSTE OWEN.

Inclosure 10 in No. 35.

Declaration of Mr. A. Owen.

(Traduction.)

MOI, Augustin Owen, je jure solennellement et je déclare que ma sœur, Caroline Owen, est allée il y a deux jours au bureau du Gouverneur-Général, et elle s'est présentée là disant faussement qu'elle était ma sœur Adelina Owen (qui est maintenant à Kieff) et qu'elle a fait ceci avec l'intention de poursuivre une fausse accusation portée par ma sœur, Adelina Owen, contre le Consul-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique, ayant pour but d'extorquer de l'argent. Je déclare aussi que mes deux sœurs m'ont avoué que cette accusation était fausse et diffamatoire.

Je déclare aussi, et je jure solennellement, qu'une lettre que j'ai écrite à M. Grenville-Murray, exprimant la honte et l'horreur que j'éprouvai à propos de la conduite de ma sœur Adeline, conduite si déshonorante pour ma famille, était écrite de

* Orthography as in original.

ma propre volonté, sans contrainte, sans menace, et sans récompense quelconque; et dans cette lettre j'ai supplié le Consul-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique, comme acte de charité et de bonté envers ma famille, de bien vouloir prier son Excellence M. Ivanoffsky de faire retirer des archives publiques la fausse accusation faite par ma sœur Adeline, car la connaissance de ces faits par toute la communauté Anglaise ici m'était non seulement très pénible, mais était aussi très nuisible à ma réputation, et je déclare que j'ai accompagné le Consul-Général chez M. Ivanoffsky dans le but de prier les autorités Russes d'avoir pitié de ma sœur, et qu'on ne la fasse pas subir un jugement pour diffamation et parjure.

Je jure aussi que je n'ai jamais nié ces faits à qui que ce soit, ni à M. Ivanoffsky ni à personne, et que si les expressions dont je me suis servi ont été ainsi comprises par M. Ivanoffsky, c'est parceque je n'ai su m'exprimer d'une manière claire et compréhensible. Je n'ai jamais voulu nier ma propre écriture, ni que, comme l'ainé de ma famille, que j'avais soutenue depuis longtemps par mon travail, j'avais supplié le Consul-Général par pitié pour elle et pour moi d'avoir de l'indulgence et laisser passer la fausse accusation faite contre lui. Ma sœur Caroline avait pleine connaissance de toutes ces circonstances, et elle a exprimé aussi fortement que moi le même désir, celui de retirer des archives publiques la fausse et indigne accusation faite par ma sœur Adeline.

Je ne puis d'aucune manière expliquer la conduite de ma sœur Caroline dernièrement, excepté qu'on est généralement d'avis qu'elle a l'esprit un peu dérangé, et elle est assujettie à des crises de colère sans aucune cause qui soit apparente, ainsi qu'était ma malheureuse sœur Adeline, et la plus malheureuse encore ma sœur Sophie.

Odessa, $\frac{13}{25}$ Mai, 1865.

(Signé)

AUGUSTIN OWEN

Témoins :

(Signé)

A. R. BLUNDELL.

T. G. SMITH.

P.S.—Je jure et déclare aussi que ma sœur Caroline m'a accompagné dans deux occasions chez le Consul-Général pour lui exprimer son chagrin à propos de la conduite de sa sœur Adeline, et elle a alors déclaré dans ma présence qu'elle irait le lendemain matin à 11 heures au bureau du Gouverneur-Général, et que par une procuration qu'elle avait obtenue d'Adeline avec cette intention, qu'elle ferait une pétition pour que cette fausse accusation soit retirée des archives publiques, et exprimer en même temps le repentir de sa sœur de ce qu'elle l'avait faite.

(Signé)

AUGUSTIN OWEN.

Témoins :

(Signés)

A. R. BLUNDELL.

T. G. SMITH.

Je certifie qu'Augustin Owen a, dans ma présence et à moi personnellement, déclaré que la déclaration au-dessus est vraie et correcte, et qu'il l'a faite de sa propre volonté, n'ayant pas été influencé ni par la peur, la faveur, ou les récompenses.

Odessa, le 25 Mai, 1865.

(Signé)

JAS. ZOHRAB, *Consul.*

(Translation.)

I, AUGUSTIN OWEN, hereby solemnly take oath and declare that my sister, Caroline Owen, went two days ago to the office of the Governor-General and there falsely represented herself to be my sister Adeline Owen, who is now at Kieff, and this for the purpose of pursuing a false charge brought by my sister Adeline Owen against Her Majesty's Consul-General, for the purpose of extorting money, and which said charge both my sisters have acknowledged to me and to others to be untrue and libellous.

And I hereby solemnly take oath and declare that a letter which I wrote to Mr. Grenville-Murray, stating the shame and abhorrence which I naturally felt at conduct so disgraceful to my family as that of my sister Adeline, was written of my own free act and deed, and without any compulsion, threats, or reward whatsoever; and in that letter I prayed Her Majesty's Consul-General, as an act of kindness and charity towards my family, to request his Excellency M. Ivanoffsky to withdraw the false charge made by my sister Adeline from the public archives, as the facts being generally known among the English here were most painful to my feelings and hurtful to my character; and I declare that I accompanied Her Majesty's Consul-General myself to M. Ivanoffsky for the purpose of praying that the Russian authorities would look mercifully on my sister's offence, and that she should not be handed over to trial for defamation of character and perjury.

I also solemnly take oath and declare that I have never denied these facts either to

M. Ivanoffsky or to any one else; and if any expressions used by me should have conveyed this impression to M. Ivanoffsky, I must have failed to express myself clearly. I never intended to deny my own handwriting, or that I, as the eldest member of my family, who have long maintained them out of my earnings, most earnestly entreated the Consul-General, for their sakes and mine, to overlook the false charge brought against him. My sister Carolina had also full and complete knowledge of these circumstances, and expressed a wish, as strong as my own, to withdraw the false and wicked accusation made by Adelina from the public archives.

I am unable to account in any way for the subsequent conduct of my sister Carolina, except that it is believed by many persons that she is slightly deranged in her intellect, and is sometimes subject to violent fits of passion without any apparent cause, as my unfortunate sister Adelina, and my still more unhappy sister Sophia.

(Signed) AUGUSTIN OWEN.

Odessa, May $\frac{13}{25}$, 1865

Witnesses:

(Signed) A. R. BLUNDELL.
T. G. SMITH.

I hereby also solemnly take oath and declare that my sister Carolina accompanied me on two occasions to Her Majesty's Consul-General for the purpose of expressing her contrition and sorrow for Adelina's conduct; and she then stated in my presence that she should proceed on the following morning, at 11 o'clock, to the office of the Governor-General, and there, by virtue of a power of attorney which she had obtained from Adelina expressly for that purpose, make a petition to withdraw the false charge from the public archives, and express her sister's repentance for having made it.

(Signed) AUGUSTIN OWEN.

Witnesses:

(Signed) A. R. BLUNDELL.
T. G. SMITH.

I hereby certify that Augustin Owen has, in my presence and to me, declared the above declaration to be true and correct, and made of his own free will, he not having been influenced either by fear, favour, or reward.

(Signed) JAS. ZOHRAB, *Consul*.

Odessa, May 25, 1865.

Inclosure 11 in No. 35.

Declaration of William Fleming Lyon.

I, WILLIAM FLEMING LYON, born at Glenogib, in Forfarshire, Scotland, Manager for Lloyd's Agency at Odessa, do hereby solemnly declare:—That I visited the Miss Owens shortly after I heard that they handed in their petition against Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General. I visited them in consequence of receiving a message from them, delivered by their brother Augustus Owen. They received me on two different occasions, when they stated as follows:—That one day when their mother was ill, and they were at her bedside, the Consul-General arrived to pay the mother a visit. That Adelaide Owen had made a disturbance, and made a complaint that the Consul-General had struck her. I asked if she had any witnesses; she said that only herself and sister were present. In the course of conversation Caroline said that she was the only member of the family who was respectable. That one brother was a swindler, another a drunkard, and that I knew what her sisters were. They said that if the Consul-General would call upon them personally, they would arrange the affair, as they wanted money. They afterwards acknowledged that the charge was untrue, and that they were sorry for having listened to the advice of M. Pankratieff to enter an action against the Consul-General; but if he would call, all would be arranged.

I further declare that I have known the family for many years, and know them to be a worthless set. One daughter was accused of murdering her illegitimate child, and narrowly escaped condemnation; she afterwards, under false pretences, entered the family of Mr. Harrison, at Woronsofky, and was turned out of doors for trying to corrupt one of the daughters, enticing her to leave the house. It was only latterly that Mr. Searle,

an Englishman, resident in this, told me that Adelaide was living in a house of ill-fame, and offered to show me the place.

Witness my hand at Odessa, this ^{22nd December, 1865}
3rd January, 1866.

(Signed)

W. F. LYON.

Inclosure 12 in No. 35.

Memorandum of Conversation between Mr. Zohrab and Mrs. Bissett.

IN the course of conversation Mrs. Bisset asked me if I had heard any more of the Owens. "Nothing particular," I answered; "have you?" To this she replied that she had seen Caroline Owen, who had called on her. Caroline Owen asked Mrs. Bisset if she had heard of her sister's accusation against Mr. Murray. She answered that she had, and that she was shocked to think that Caroline should have upheld her sister in such a falsehood. She put the question to her as to whether she could say with truth that Mr. Murray had struck or beaten her sister Adelina. To this Caroline Owen answered, "No, he did not strike nor beat my sister, but I was afraid of contradicting what she said, because she declared that she would kill herself if I denied the truth of her accusation. She was very rude, and in a great passion while talking to Mr. Murray, but he did not strike her."

(Signed)

E. ZOHRAB.

March 28, 1865.

Inclosure 13 in No. 35.

Summary of Oral Evidence collected at Odessa, relative to charge of Assault brought by Miss Adelaide Owen against Mr. Grenville-Murray.

MISS ADELAIDE OWEN, the complainant, and her elder sister, Miss Caroline Owen, were interrogated twice by me in Mr. Murray's presence; full liberty being given to him to cross-question them upon any matters materially affecting the charge.

It appeared from their evidence, that Mr. Murray had been in the habit of visiting the family for some time previous to the alleged assault, and that they and their mother had received much kindness at his hands, their mother entertaining a very high opinion of him until shortly before her death, when she had reason for changing it. It was admitted, as stated by Mr. Murray in his Report of 28th February, that he had requested Mr. Melville, the agent of the Bible Society, to call and administer religious consolation to Mrs. Owen, when she was known to be dying; and he had sent clergymen to her on previous occasions, and had once himself read the Communion Service to her. The sisters, too, appear to have thought it natural to go to their Consul-General for the settlement of any family quarrels which occurred.

Both sisters gave very much the same account of the alleged assault as that given by Adelaide Owen in her Petition to the Governor-General; they could give no reason for it beyond Mr. Murray's violence of character, and his irritation at Adelaide's refusing to come to him when he called her. He seized her by the wrist, they said, and beat her over the shoulders with his whip. In their view, the aggravating part of it was, that he had kept his hat and dirty boots on in their apartment; and such a proceeding is considered particularly ill-bred and insulting in Russia.

The examination of the two sisters was separate, but nothing could shake their testimony as to the fact and manner of the assault.

Upon my asking Caroline Owen to describe exactly what had occurred, she first of all turned to Mr. Murray, saying to me, "Why not ask him? He will tell you; he knows very well," or words to that effect; and more than once appealed to him, and assured me that the persons who witnessed the occurrence would fully confirm her statement.

Upon my taking Mr. Murray's written version of the scene, and inquiring whether that was not the way in which it had really occurred,—whether Adelaide had not first struck him, and whether she might not in doing so have knocked herself against his whip, they persisted in their own version, only admitting that Adelaide had struck him after, and whilst he was striking her.

I asked if the beating had made any marks. They acknowledged that it had not, on account of her having on her thick winter clothing; but insisted that it was done seriously, and that it had hurt her.

They denied having ever told their brother or any one else that the charge was a false one.

Upon being asked whether she had not, some weeks or months after the alleged assault upon her sister, gone to Mr. Murray in distress, and, after expressing her sorrow and penitence at her conduct towards him, received 25 roubles from him, Caroline Owen indignantly denied having then applied to him for money; so far from her being then in distress, she maintained that she had at the time 300 roubles in her pocket, out of 500, proceeding from the sale of her mother's effects; that Mr. Murray had nevertheless forced her to accept 25 roubles from him. She had been surprised at this, and was inclined to attribute it to returning good-feeling on his part, until her sister afterwards suggested to her that his object might be to induce them to withdraw the charge, and she then regretted having accepted the money.

Upon being told about her brother Augustin's affidavit, Caroline Owen declared there was not a word of truth in it; that it had been extorted from him by Mr. Murray, who had made him sign it without his knowing what he was doing, &c.

The sisters denied that any one had instigated them to bring the charge against Mr. Murray, but allowed afterwards that M. Pankratieff, as their neighbour and friend of their family had, out of kindness, corrected the errors made by Adelaide in the grammar and spelling of her Petition. The original Petition to Baron Velho had been returned to Adelaide, not on account of its insignificance, as suggested by Mr. Murray, but because it had not been drawn up upon stamped paper as required by law.

Some Russian General officer had advised Adelaide to write also a letter to General Kotzebue (which was that first given by Prince Gortchakoff to Sir Andrew Buchanan).

Mr. Murray's questions to Adelaide Owen related principally to her immoral conduct and to her alleged attempt to stab her brother.

On the latter subject she evaded giving a categorical answer, stating that they had family quarrels which only concerned themselves. Of her immorality I had heard sufficient from various sources, and therefore stopped his questions thereupon.

It should be mentioned, however, that certain other questions were put with a view to show that the family had formerly brought a charge against a distinguished Russian General of being the father of an illegitimate child of one of the sisters—the child alluded to by Mr. Murray in his Report of the 28th February as having died from exposure at the door of the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity. The child was represented by Adelaide and Caroline Owen to have been that of their sister Sophie by an Englishman; and, according to the detailed explanation of the affair given by Caroline, it was deposited at the Hospital, with the initial marked on its linen of the Christian name chosen for it, in case of the mother being in a position to reclaim it subsequently; that the child was accidentally killed whilst being taken into the Hospital; and that the family afterwards was much pained to learn that a report had got about that they had wished to pass it off as the child of the General in question, in consequence of the initial letter happening to be the same as that of the General's surname; that as soon as this report reached them they wrote to the General to express their great regret, and to exculpate themselves from having had any intentional share in it, after all the kindness which they had received from him; and that, so far from his blaming them, he had, on his return to Odessa, kindly offered them the gratuitous use of an outhouse in his garden to live in.

Caroline Owen declared that Mr. Lyon had called upon her, on the part of Mr. Murray, shortly after her sister had addressed her complaint to the authorities, for the purpose of proposing to her to arrange the matter, but that she had positively declined.

The lithographed invitation to attend Mrs. Owen's funeral had been sent to Mr. Murray in common with all the acquaintances of the family.

Augustin Owen, brother of Caroline and Adelaide Owen, declared that his affidavit of the 25th May, 1865, had been written or dictated by Mr. Murray, when he was in distress, and that he had signed it without knowing its purport. He also stated that his letter to Mr. Murray had been extorted from him, in the hope of obtaining reward or employment.

(The evidence of this witness, whether oral or written, whether for or against Mr. Murray, is thoroughly worthless.)

Adolphe Owen, brother to the preceding witnesses, could give no evidence of importance, merely stating that he was convinced the assault had occurred in the

manner represented by his sisters, and that they had never in his hearing given any other version of it.

(As the character of this witness was impugned by Mr. Murray and by Mr. Lyon, his evidence, even as far as it goes, need not be taken into account.)

Madame Zempling, a respectable-looking German lady of advanced age, the wife of a shopkeeper, had witnessed the alleged assault. She gave an account of it to Mr. Fenton in German, saying that it had been a very serious one, and that the blows had been repeated with great violence; that there had been no provocation on the part of Adelaide Owen beyond her refusal to go to Mr. Murray after he had twice called to her imperiously by name; that after several blows had been given Adelaide had flown at his face, but whether she succeeded in scratching or striking him she (Madame Z.) could not say. Adelaide had screamed loudly during the scene, and was so excited and irritated that those present had difficulty in preventing her from following Mr. Murray into the street to have him arrested. Madame Zempling described herself and the whole party as having been greatly agitated, and was convinced that the other lady who was present, and whom she had never seen before or since, would give the same account of what had occurred. She (Madame Z.) had not known Mr. Murray at the time, but she had seen him several times since in Odessa. She had no ill-feeling towards him, nor any interest whatever in the matter.

Mr. Murray was not present when Madame Zempling called. When told the next day of the substance of her evidence, he merely said that he believed her to be M. Pankratieff's mistress, and that of course they would all swear to the same story. Her age, would, however, appear to be a sufficient refutation of Mr. Murray's insinuation as to her relations with M. Pankratieff.

Mr. T. G. Smith (Mr. Murray's Secretary) spoke to the disreputable character of the Owen family, and to Mr. Murray's many acts of kindness towards them. He had often been sent to Mrs. Owen with money, wine, and other comforts, and on one occasion with no less a sum than 60 roubles.

When questioned as to Augustin Owen's affidavit, Mr. Smith declared that it had been entirely a voluntary act on Augustin Owen's part, and signed with a full knowledge of its contents, without promise of reward, and uninfluenced in any manner. He (Mr. Smith) had written it out for signature, and before being signed it had been read over to Augustin Owen. The attestation subjoined to it was in the handwriting of Mr. Zohrab, who signed it.

Rev. A. R. Blundell, a clergyman, who had lived for some months in Mr. Murray's house as chaplain, when questioned about the affidavit, stated that he remembered having come down from his room in consequence of a message from Mr. Murray to witness its signature. When he came in, it was being read over to Augustin Owen, who then said he wanted to add something. The additional statement was drawn up as follows:—Augustin Owen described what he wanted to say. Mr. Murray put it into more correct language, and Mr. T. G. Smith copied it from Mr. Murray's dictation, and it was then read over to Augustin Owen.

On further inquiry such appears to have been the way in which the whole of the affidavit was drawn up, and to be the usual way of drawing up affidavits for British subjects at the Odessa Consulate.

Mr. Blundell had, on one occasion, administered the Communion to Caroline Owen when she came to church at Mr. Murray's house, believing her at that time to be respectable.

Mr. W. F. Lyon, a gentleman employed in Lloyd's agency at Odessa, confirmed his written declaration, except in so far as he had therein unintentionally represented both Caroline and Adelaide Owen as having acknowledged to him that the charge against Mr. Murray was untrue, whereas he had merely intended to name the elder sister Caroline, instead of they, as having made the admission.

He repeated, that he had gone to visit the Owens at their brother's request, and denied that he had been requested by Mr. Murray to propose to them to arrange the matters.

Mrs. Bisset, wife of the Chief Engineer of the Russian Steam Navigation Company, occupying a highly-respectable and comfortable position, upon being shown Mrs. Zohrab's Memorandum (Inclosure No. 12) of a conversation with her, at once said that it was not

exactly true in regard to the manner in which the conversation had commenced, inasmuch as it was Mrs. Zohrab who called and asked her whether she had seen the Owens: What Mrs. Bisset had then repeated to Mrs. Zohrab was, that when Caroline Owen came to see her, and allusion was made to the affair, she (Mrs. Bisset) had asked Caroline whether what had really occurred, had not been that Mr. Murray had struck her sister Adelaide over the shoulders in a half-playful manner, and without intending it seriously; and that Caroline had answered it was just so, but that she was afraid now to say so, on account of her sister's violence, who threatened to kill herself if she denied her version of the affair.

Mr. Melville, Agent of the Bible Society, and much and deservedly-respected at Odessa, stated that when Caroline Owen had come to ask him to prepare her for receiving the Communion, she had given him much the same account of the alleged assault upon her sister as that she had given to Mrs. Bisset, saying that the assault had not been a serious one, and that she was sorry for what had occurred.

In the evidence of Mr. Melville and of Mrs. Bisset, as far as it goes, I place the most implicit reliance.

December 29, 1865
January 6, 1866*

(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure 14 in No. 35.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Stuart.

Sir, Odessa, December 30, 1865.

WITH regard to the observations of his Excellency General de Kotzebue upon my despatch to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, I have the honour to state that I distinctly remember M. Mitkoff expressed himself to the effect therein mentioned.

I have known M. Mitkoff for the last eight years, and we have always been on such pleasant and friendly terms that it was merely natural and courteous he should say what he did say upon the occasion.

That not only M. Mitkoff, but his predecessor, Baron Velho, before whom the charge was first brought, considered it unworthy of notice, is evident from the fact that neither of them ever made any communication to me on the subject, either official or private, in speech or in writing.

I have only, therefore, to repeat the explanations I have already given, I have proofs that the accusation brought against me was an attempt to extort money; and as I refused to pay one sixpence to silence the calumny, I venture respectfully to submit it may reasonably be supposed to have been groundless.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 15 in No. 35.

M. Ivanofsky to Mr. Stuart.

Monsieur,

Ce 24 Décembre, 1865, v.s.

A LA suite de la décision que nous avons adoptée, d'un commun accord, hier, de nous en rapporter aux paroles de M. le Général de Kotzebue, pour savoir s'il était opportun de nous réunir encore une fois chez M. Mitkoff ensemble avec M. Grenville-Murray, je m'empresse de vous informer que son Excellence a dit qu'en premier lieu elle ne se reconnaissait pas le droit d'inviter un haut fonctionnaire comme M. Mitkoff de se prêter à une combinaison dont il lui appartient d'évaluer lui-même l'opportunité. Secondement, le Général pense que ces deux messieurs, autant M. Mitkoff que sans doute M. Grenville-Murray, persistant dans leurs déclarations respectives, il ne résulterait d'une séance qui les mettrait face à face que ce qui est déjà acquis, et qu'en définitive la réunion ayant lieu ou non, les choses resteraient évidemment dans le même état.

Telles sont les paroles de son Excellence. J'ajoute pour ma part que M. Mitkoff, par le départ du Gouverneur titulaire d'Odessa, entre, aujourd'hui même, de nouveau en fonctions de chef de la ville.

Je regrette de ne pas avoir le temps de vous serrer la main, et je vous prie de vouloir bien vous charger de mes meilleurs compliments pour M. Fenton, et agréer, &c.

(Signé) LEON IVANOFSKI.

Inclosure 16 in No. 35.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Stuart.

Sir,

Odessa, January 13, 1866.

IN obedience to your instructions with reference to the papers received by you from General Kotzebue, I have the honour to observe that the inclosure marked No. 1 is a statement of Miss Owen's complaint.

The improbable invention contained in that complaint marked No. 2 is disproved by the confession of the Misses Owen themselves, the evidence of Mrs. Zohrab, Mrs. Bisset, Mr. Consul Zohrab, the Rev. Mr. Blundell, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Smith, and their own brother Augustin Owen. There is also the testimony of their mother's letters, and that of the Rev. Mr. Melville, to show the charity they have received at my hands.

Inclosure No. 3 contains the statement of Teresa Zempling and her servant that Miss Owen was struck by some one she said was the English Consul

This witness is the reputed mistress of M. Pankratieff, who is admitted by the Owen family to have got up the case, and whose evidence is therefore inadmissible.

M. Koudinoff was not to be found when called upon to appear before you.

The phrase "en prenant en considération que sa plainte a été provoquée par le procédé vraiment indigne de M. Grenville-Murray," which is the only material part of Inclosure No. 4, M. Mitkoff acknowledges to be a mistranslation, and that he never meant to write anything of the kind.

The words "plusieurs personnes," afterwards exaggerated in General Kotzebue's despatch into "plusieurs personnes dignes de foi," refer to no other witnesses but the two already mentioned, viz., the reputed mistress of Pankratieff and her servant. Even these persons were never sworn and interrogated.

It being admitted, however, that this despatch is improperly translated comment is needless.

Inclosure No. 5 is contradicted by inclosure No. 7.

The contents of inclosure No. 6 are confirmed by the testimony of Mr. Consul Zohrab, the Rev. Mr. Blundell, and Mr. Smith, as well as by the confession made to Mrs. Zohrab, to Mrs. Bissett, and to Mr. Lyon.

With regard to my reported conversation with Mr. Mitkoff, I am convinced that in a personal interview, which I requested through you as the best means of proving the truth, I should have recalled the precise language he used to me to his memory: but as General Kotzebue objected to this interview, I must repeat my statement of the fact.

Moreover, as M. Mitkoff speaks French so imperfectly that General Kotzebue recommended you an interpreter to converse with him, what he ultimately said to you is still not quite clear. For this interpreter happened to be the same gentleman who committed the errors in translating M. Mitkoff's language on the former occasion, whose written advice to me to hush up the affair by money, contained in his letter which I showed you, was rejected, and who has perhaps shown some anxiety to prove that I should have done better to follow it.

Finally, it is impossible to reconcile the language of General Kotzebue's despatch dated October 22, 1865, with the evidence before him, and I can only express my surprise that his Excellency should have prejudged this case without proof or examination.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 17 in No. 35.

*Mr. Grenville-Murray's Despatch to Mr.
Stuart, dated Odessa, January 13, 1866.*

Mr. Stuart's Observations.

Sir,

IN obedience to your instructions with reference to the papers received by you from General Kotzebue, I have the honour to observe that the inclosure marked No. 1 is a statement of Miss Owen's complaint.

The improbable invention contained in that complaint marked No. 2, is disproved

Mr. Murray is scarcely justified in assuming that the contents of Miss Adeline

*Mr. Grenville-Murray's Despatch.**Mr. Stuart's Observations.*

by the confession of the Misses Owen themselves, the evidence of Mrs. Zohrab, Mrs. Bisset, Mr. Consul Zohrab, the Rev. Mr. Blundell, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Smith, and their own brother Augustus Owen. There is also the testimony of their mother's letters, and that of the Rev. Mr. Melville, to show the charity they have received at my hands.

Inclosure No. 3 contains the statement of Teresa Zempling and her servant, that Miss Owen was struck by some one she said was the English Consul.

This witness is the reputed mistress of M. Pankratieff, who is admitted by the Owen family to have got up the case, and whose evidence is, therefore, inadmissible.

M. Koudinoff was not to be found when called upon to appear before you.

The phrase "*en prenant en considération que sa plainte a été provoquée par le procédé vraiment indigne de M. Grenville-Murray*," which is the only material part of Inclosure No. 4, M. Mitkoff acknowledges to be a mistranslation, and that he never meant to write anything of the kind.

The words "*plusieurs personnes*," afterwards exaggerated in General Kotzebue's despatch into "*plusieurs personnes dignes de foi*," refer to no other witnesses but the two already mentioned, namely, the reputed mistress of Pankratieff, and her servant. Even these persons were never sworn and interrogated.

It being admitted, however, that this despatch is improperly translated, comment is needless.

Inclosure No. 5 is contradicted by Inclosure No. 7.

Owen's complaint marked No. 2 (No. 4 in my Report) were disproved by all the witnesses whom he enumerates.

That the Owen family had received charity at Mr. Murray's hands is certainly not disputed.

It is difficult to see what advantage can accrue to Mr. Murray from the fact that the witness Madame Zempling had not known him by sight before the day on which the alleged assault is stated to have occurred. In Inclosure No. 3 (No 5 in my Report) there is no question of any servant of Madame Zempling.

I cannot say what grounds Mr Murray may have for representing Madame Zempling to be M. Pankratieff's reputed mistress; her advanced age would seem sufficient to refute the insinuation unless proof can be adduced.

It is not admitted by the Owen family that M. Pankratieff got up the case, but that as a friend of the family he had corrected the orthography of the Petition. His evidence is not of importance, but I do not see why either it or that of Madame Zempling should be inadmissible even if Mr. Murray's insinuation is well founded.

I believe that M. Koudinoff was absent from Odessa; but whether this was so or not, I did not call upon him to appear, not attaching importance to his evidence.

This paragraph is fair enough. See M. Mitkoff's explanation as given in my Report. The Inclosure referred to is No. 6 in my Report.

Mr. Murray repeats his mistake about Madame Zempling's servant, whereas Madame Dmitrieva was the other witness. It is true that Mr. Murray was not present when Madame Zempling was interrogated, but he was informed of the nature of her evidence. It is also true that I did not see Madame Dmitrieva, for reason given in Report. None of the witnesses were sworn. I believed I had no power to administer oaths in Russia.

I do not see why Mr. Murray should take exception to any other part of M. Mitkoff's despatch of April, than to the words already quoted and admitted by him to be the only material part of it.

These (Nos. 8 and 7 in Report) are Augustin Owen's letters which I have

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Despatch.

The contents of Inclosure No. 6 are confirmed by the testimony of Mr. Consul Zohrab, the Rev. Mr. Blundell and Mr. Smith, as well as by the confession made to Mr. Zohrab, to Mr. Bisset, and to Mr. Lyon.

With regard to my reported conversation with M. Mitkoff, I am convinced that in a personal interview which I requested through you as the best means of proving the truth, I should have recalled the precise language he used to me to his memory; but as General Kotzebue objected to this interview, I must repeat my statement of the fact.

Moreover, as M. Mitkoff speaks French so imperfectly that General Kotzebue recommended you an interpreter to converse with him, what he ultimately said to you is still not quite clear. For this interpreter happened to be the same gentleman who committed the errors in translating M. Mitkoff's language on the former occasion; whose written advice to me to hush up the affair by money, contained in his letter which I showed you, was rejected, and who has, perhaps, shown some anxiety to prove that I should have done better to follow it.

Finally, it is impossible to reconcile the language of General Kotzebue's despatch, dated October 22, 1865, with the evidence before him, and I can only express my surprise that his Excellency should have prejudged the case without proof or examination.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-
MURRAY.

Mr. Stuart's Observations.

treated as worthless. Mr. Murray is right in saying that they contradict each other.

This must be Augustin Owen's sworn declaration (No. 10 in Report).

This statement is perfectly fair except that General Kotzebue's objection was apparently not so much to the interview as to taking upon himself to order it.

M. Mitkoff's French was for the most part perfectly intelligible, and it was only occasionally that we required the good offices of the interpreter. This gentleman was M. Ivanovski, as stated in my Report, and as Mr. Murray knows. The gentleman whose name was attached as translator of M. Mitkoff's despatch, was M. Sicard, and his name was copied as such on the copy given to Mr. Murray.

It is true that Mr. Murray showed me a letter from M. Ivanovski, recommending him to hush up the matter for money. General Kotzebue and M. Mitkoff had either sent or given similar advice.

As far as I could see, M. Ivanovski did not appear animated by any ill-feeling towards Mr. Murray.

The General's despatch certainly does seem to prejudge the case against Mr. Murray.

(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 36.

Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 9.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to my other despatch of this day's date, it is my further duty to report that when I took leave of the Governor-General of New Russia his Excellency insisted upon informing me that the reputation which Mr. Grenville-Murray had made for himself at Odessa was the reverse of favourable, and that he should like much to see Great Britain more worthily represented there.

I confined myself to remarking to his Excellency that if he had any cause of complaint against Mr. Murray he might represent it through his own Government to Her

Constantinople, January 24, 1866.

Majesty's Government, and that due consideration would no doubt be given to it.* The General answered that his objections related rather to the general character than to any specific acts of Mr. Murray, and then talked with great respect and enthusiasm of the successive distinguished officers whom he had known as Consuls-General of Great Britain at Warsaw.

It was not my wish to receive such a communication as the above from General de Kotzebue, but as it was pointedly made to me, I cannot do otherwise than to make it known to your Lordship, as showing his Excellency's opinion of, and his consequent feelings towards, Mr. Murray.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 37.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 3, 1866.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th ultimo,† I have now to acquaint you that, having, in communication with the Law Adviser of the Crown, weighed the evidence obtained by Mr. Stuart, after a careful investigation at Odessa, of the charges which had been made by Miss Adelaide Owen, against Mr. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at that port, Her Majesty's Government do not consider the evidence sufficiently conclusive to warrant them in superseding that gentleman.

In communicating this opinion to Prince Gortchakoff, you will state to his Excellency that, in the event of proceedings in this case being instituted before a Russian Tribunal, Her Majesty's Government have no desire to screen Mr. Grenville-Murray on the ground of his official character.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 38.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1866.

HER Majesty's Government have weighed the evidence obtained by Mr. Stuart in regard to the charges brought against you by Miss Adelaide Owen; and I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to inform you that his Lordship has instructed Sir Andrew Buchanan to state to the Russian Government that he does not consider the evidence sufficiently conclusive to enable him to take further steps in the matter at present; but that your official character will not protect you against any legal proceedings which parties in Russia may think proper to institute.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

* No. 122.

† No. 34.

Question as to the Legality of the Marriages of Messrs. Webster
and Brenan, solemnized at Odessa : 1866-67.

No. 39.

Mr. Webster to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 22.)

My Lord,

*Kherson, September 19,
October 1, 1866.*

ON the $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁴/₈th of February last, being desirous of getting married to my cousin, Miss Emma Webster, who was then in England, I applied to Mr. G. A. Stevens, British Vice-Consul at this port, for advice.

Mr. Stevens, in reply, stated that he could perform the ceremony.

I then mentioned that I should like my marriage to take place the day after the young lady's arrival at Kherson; but not being able to get any satisfactory information from Mr. Stevens with regard to the state of the law on this subject, I made up my mind to go to Odessa and consult Mr. Murray, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.

I went to Odessa on the ^{3rd}/_{15th} of March, and carried despatches from Mr. Stevens to Mr. Murray, in which the former asked for instructions and a warrant to enable him to marry me.

On the following day I saw Mr. Murray, who gave me to understand that he would not give a warrant to Mr. Stevens, alleging that as Mr. Stevens did not hold a Queen's commission, he could not legally marry any body.

Mr. Murray at the same time strongly advised me to get married at Odessa; and when I inquired if any delay would take place, he answered, "Not one moment's. All you have to do is to give me notice on one of these printed forms, and the day of, or day after, the young lady's arrival at Odessa the ceremony can take place." Whereupon I immediately wrote out the notice.

On the ^{23rd March}/_{4th April} the young lady arrived at Odessa, and on the ^{26th March}/_{7th April} we were married at the British Consulate-General, as per copy of certificate herewith.

Since my marriage I have lived with my wife at Kherson, during which time Mr. Vice-Consul Stevens has spread the report that my marriage is illegal. It is for this reason that I humbly beg your Lordship to inform me whether my marriage is valid or not, and if invalid, what steps I am to take to remedy what would then be an irregularity of Mr. Murray. It is needless to add that Mr. Stevens' statements, unless disproved, will cause great detriment to my character.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. C. WEBSTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

Notice of Marriage.

To the British Consul-General at Odessa.

I HEREBY give you notice that a marriage is intended to be had, within three calendar months from the date hereof, between me and the other party herein named and described, that is to say :

Name and Surname.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Dwelling Place.	Length of Residence.
Richard Clayton Hartley Webster ..	Bachelor	Merchant's clerk ..	23	Kherson . ..	4½ years.
Emma Webster	Spinster .. ..	.. ..	24	.. ..	..

Witness my hand, this $\frac{4}{16}$ th day of March, 1866.

(Signed)

R. C. WEBSTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

Certificate of Marriage.

1866.

Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
21	1866 April 7	Richard Clayton Hartley Webster	23	Bachelor .	Merchant's clerk	Odessa .	Richard Webster .	Merchant.
		Emma Webster ..	24	Spinster .	.. ..	Odessa .	John Webster ..	Commercial traveller.

Married in the British Consulate-General, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Churches of England and Scotland, by licence, by me,

(Signed)

THOMAS G. CLARK.

Minister of the English Presbyterian Church.

This marriage was solemnized between us :

(Signed)

R. C. WEBSTER.

EMMA WEBSTER.

In the presence of us :

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*

ALLARD.

WM. BISSET,

E. MANS, Jun. .

(Seal of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.)

No. 40.

Mr. Brennan to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 24.)

My Lord,

Kherson, September 23,
October 6, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the following statement :—

I have been a resident of Kherson since 1858.

In January this year, private business necessitated my visiting England.

In April last, being desirous to get married to Miss Sarah Amelia Webster, a resident of Kherson, I wrote to her brother, Mr. R. C. Webster, requesting him to ascertain from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, whether I could be married immediately on my arrival at Odessa, and what were the steps necessary to be taken to that end.

Mr. Webster wrote to Mr. Murray as per inclosure No. 1, and received an answer (see inclosure No. 2).

On the ⁴/₁₆th May, Miss S. A. Webster gave in a notice to Her Majesty's Consul-General, copy of which I have the honour to inclose. On the ^{28th May}/_{9th June} I arrived at Odessa from London, and was married on the 11th June, n.s., as per inclosed copy of certificate.

Since that time I have been residing with my wife at Kherson; during this interval, however, Mr. G. A. Stevens, British Vice-Consul in this town, has raised some very serious doubts as to the legality of my marriage, stating that I had not conformed with the requirements of the Act of Parliament, relating to the marriage of British subjects residing abroad, which, were they well founded, would reflect upon my character, were I not to take any steps to put myself in order.

I have now, therefore, the honour to solicit that your Lordship will kindly inform me whether my marriage is legal, and if it is not, what course I am to pursue to rectify this illegality, which will have been caused by erroneous instructions given by Mr. Consul-General Murray.

I may here state that the nearest place to this where a British Consular Officer, possessing Her Majesty's commission, or an English clergyman is resident, is Odessa; and that it is of the greatest inconvenience to persons employed in business here to make a journey to that town, which always involves a loss of time amounting to three or four days, besides heavy pecuniary expenses.

My excuse for addressing your Lordship direct on this subject is, that Mr. Vice-Consul Stevens and his immediate superior officer, Mr. Consul-General Murray, are of a totally different opinion as to the legality of my marriage; and as the question is of the most vital importance to me, I have no other course left open than to appeal directly to your Lordship.

Trusting to your Lordship's well-known kindness for pardon for any transgression of which I may have been guilty in thus addressing your Lordship, I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. BRENNAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Mr. Webster to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Cherson, April ¹¹/₂, 1866.

MR. WILLIAM BRENNAN, at present in England, is desirous of getting married to my sister immediately on his return to Russia.

To enable him to do so, will a notice signed by my sister in your presence, in which she will announce her approaching marriage, suffice?

It did in my case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. C. WEBSTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

Mr. Perkins to Mr. Webster.

Sir,

Odessa, April 26, 1866.

I AM requested by Her Majesty's Consul-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the ^{11th}/_{23rd} April, and in reply thereto, to send you a copy of the form of notice of marriage required, which I inclose herein, and to add that it will only require to be signed in the Register Book of Marriages kept in this Office.

I have &c.
(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 40.

Notice of Marriage.

To the British Consul-General at Odessa.

I HEREBY give you notice, that a marriage is intended to be had, within three calendar months from the date hereof, between me and the other party herein named and described, that is to say :

Name and Surname.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Dwelling Place.	Length of Residence.
Sarah Amelia Webster	Spinster .. ..	.. ..	20	Kherson . . .	18 months.
William Brenan	Bachelor	Merchant's clerk ..	26	.. ..	..

Witness my hand, this $\frac{4}{16}$ th day of May, 1866.

(Signed) SARAH AMELIA WEBSTER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 40.

Certificate of Marriage.

Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
24	1866 June 11	William Brenan ..	26	Bachelor .	Merchant's clerk	Odessa .	P. P. Brenan ..	Retired Captain.
		Sarah Amelia Webster ..	20	Spinster .	.. ..	Odessa .	Richard Webster .	Merchant.

Married in the British Consulate-General, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England and Scotland, by license, by me,

(Signed) THOMAS G. CLARK,
Minister of the English Presbyterian Church.

This marriage was solemnized between us :

(Signed) WM. BREMAN.
SARAH AMELIA WEBSTER.

In the presence of us :

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*
HENRY STAPELBERG.
J. ANDERSON.
A. VADON.

(Seal of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.)

No. 41.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 16, 1866.*

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you copies of letters from Mr. Webster and from Mr. Brenan,* calling attention to certain doubts which have arisen as to the marriages contracted by them at Her Majesty's Consulate under your charge.

It appears that in the case of both these marriages, one of the parties is stated not to have dwelt within your Consular district, in which the marriage was solemnized, for the prescribed period of one calendar month, but that notwithstanding this circumstance you had considered yourself justified in informing the parties that the marriages could take place, and the marriages were solemnized accordingly.

* Nos. 39 and 40.

In both of these cases you appear to have mistaken, forgotten, or neglected the provisions contained in the 2nd, 6th, and 9th sections of the Act 12 and 13 Vict. cap. 68, regarding the notice to be given and statement to be made by one of the parties; and in the case of a marriage by licence (which these marriages appear to have been), the oath or solemn declaration by each of the parties that both of them had resided within the district for one calendar month next preceding.

The irregularity thus committed by you has given rise to such considerable doubts as to the validity of the marriages in question, that Lord Stanley has directed steps to be taken for removing, by means of an Act of Parliament, any doubts on the subject. In the meanwhile, great embarrassment has been occasioned to the parties concerned, and it is Lord Stanley's desire that you should lose no time in affording to his Lordship an explanation of your proceedings in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 42.

*Mr. James Murray to Mr. Webster.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1866.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st ultimo,† in which you call his Lordship's attention to the proceedings of Mr. Consul-General Grenville-Murray and Mr. Vice-Consul Stevens in the case of your marriage, and in which you request to be informed whether that marriage is valid or not.

Lord Stanley has consulted the proper Law Adviser of the Crown on this subject, and I am to acquaint you that considerable doubt may, under the circumstances of the case, be entertained as to the validity of your marriage. An Act of Parliament will be brought in during the ensuing session for the purpose of setting such doubts at rest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 43.

Mr. James Murray to Vice-Consul Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1866.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that his Lordship has received from Mr. Webster, of Kherson, a letter† calling attention to certain circumstances connected with his marriage, and stating that he had, in the first instance, been informed by you that you were competent to perform the ceremony, but that you had subsequently communicated with Mr. Consul-General Murray, with a view to obtain from him a warrant which would enable you to solemnize the marriage.

Lord Stanley finds it difficult to believe that, considering you do not hold a warrant from the Secretary of State authorizing you to solemnize marriages, you should have held to Mr. Webster the language imputed to you; and, as regards your alleged application to Mr. Murray, the latter has no authority to grant such a warrant.

It is important that in matters of this description no doubt should be suffered to exist in the minds of any British Consular Officer as to the extent of his powers; and I am, therefore, to instruct you to report to Lord Stanley the exact state of things as to the course pursued by you in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 44.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

London, November 17, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Murray's despatch of yesterday's date, inclosing copies of letters from Messrs. Webster and Brennan, respecting doubts as to the marriages contracted by them at Her Majesty's Consulate at Odessa; and, in reply, to

* A similar letter was addressed to Mr. Brennan, in answer to his of the 5th ultimo.

† No. 39.

state, that when they applied to me for information on the subject, I furnished them, as appears by my letter of the 26th April to Mr. Webster,* with a copy of the printed legal form of notice of marriage required, presuming that, as they had both been resident within my district for the last eight years, they were prepared to comply with the usual regulations, especially as Mr. Brennan has repeatedly been Acting Vice-Consul himself during the absence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Stevens. I also referred them to Mr. Clark, the British Chaplain, who is always as anxious as I am to prevent the smallest irregularity; and Mr. Clark finally performed the ceremony, as fully satisfied as myself that all necessary forms had been observed.

But, considering that all the ports of the Black Sea, as well as Kherson, are within my district as Consul-General, I did not enforce the actual residence of the parties for a month at Odessa, because they earnestly begged, in the first place, that they should not be put to the expense of a month's hotel bills which they could not afford, and also urged the impossibility of two young women residing with them under such circumstances for a month previous to their marriage.

If, in showing consideration to their feelings and entreaties, I have gone beyond the strict letter of the law, I am extremely sorry for having done so; and can only express a hope that your Lordship will look upon my error with indulgence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 45.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 19, 1866.

WITH reference to your letter of the 17th instant,† explaining your proceedings as regards the marriages of Messrs. Webster and Brennan, I am directed by Lord Stanley to state to you, for your future guidance, that the provisions of the law, which are designed for general security, and which in the present instance must be adhered to in order that marriages may be valid, must in no case be set aside for the convenience of individuals.

I am, however, to add that the circumstances stated in your letter to a great degree excuse the irregularity which you admit has taken place.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 46.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 27, 1866.

WITH reference to Mr. Murray's letters of the 16th and 19th instant, stating that it would be necessary to pass an Act of Parliament to render valid the marriages of Messrs. Webster and Brennan, I am directed by Lord Stanley to request that you will acquaint him, without delay, whether all marriages solemnized by you since your residence as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa have been duly registered at the Consulate, and the notices and licenses connected with them filed and preserved, while accurate copies of the registers have been regularly sent to the Foreign Office for deposit in the Registrar-General's Office.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 47.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

London, November 27, 1866.

IN reply to Mr. Hammond's despatch of to-day's date, I have the honour to state that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all marriages solemnized by me at Odessa have been duly registered, and the notices and licenses connected with them filed and preserved, while accurate copies of the registers have been regularly sent to the Foreign Office for deposit in the Registrar-General's Office.

* Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

† No. 44.

Indeed, finding some confusion in the registers on my arrival at Odessa, owing to the late war and other causes, and being strongly impressed with the importance of preserving an exact registration of all marriages performed at the Consulate, I wrote to the Registrar-General, requesting him to furnish me with the printed forms required, which have been always carefully filled up and annually transmitted to him in the regular way, while duplicate copies of the said registers are bound in a book kept expressly for that purpose in the archives of the Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 48.

Vice-Consul Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord.

Nicolaieff, December 3, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt yesterday of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 16th ultimo,* informing me that your Lordship had received a letter from Mr. Webster calling attention to certain circumstances connected with his marriage, and instructing me to report the exact state of things as to the course pursued by me in the matter.

I must begin by informing your Lordship that Mr. Webster, whom I have known since he was a mere youth, called at my house at Kherson on the 26th of February last, to inform Mrs. Stevens and myself that he was about to marry, stating his unwillingness to be married at the Consulate-General at Odessa, and asking me to do the needful as regards inviting the Rev. Mr. Blundell, an English clergyman then at Odessa, to solemnize the marriage, which I undertook to do, telling Mr. Webster that as far as I knew, the Act for facilitating the marriages of British subjects in foreign countries did not repeal the Act George IV, cap. 91, and that, after reference to the clergyman named, if I proved right, there was no reason, in my opinion, why he should not be married at my Vice-Consulate by Mr. Blundell as he wished; but that I imagined it would be necessary to advertise the marriage, and as he said he supposed his intended was already *en route*, to provide against delay, I suggested his signing the notice of his marriage at once, subject always to its being renewed or cancelled if necessary.

Mr. Webster signed the notice, and I wrote a letter on the same evening to Mr. Blundell, copy of which I have now the honour to inclose, and which communication I sent forward next day, after previously submitting it to Mr. Webster, who expressed his approval as to the wording of it.

On the 6th of March I received Mr. Blundell's reply, regretting his inability to come to Kherson, which letter I immediately sent to Mr. Webster, and I believe it remained in his possession, for I have not been able to find it now among my papers, though I find an extract made from it by me before sending it on to Mr. Webster, and copy of which extract I also do myself the honour of transmitting herewith.

Very ill with a swollen head at the time, my memory confused from protracted suffering, with only a casual acquaintanceship with the Act Vict. 12 and 13, cap. 68, and but an impartial knowledge of the instructions which accompanied it from the Foreign Office, formed on the occasion of my own marriage eleven years previously; while I was fully aware that I had no authority to solemnize marriages, I was in doubt—in consequence of a strong impression on my mind that I had seen the Marriage Act in the archives of the then Vice-Consulate at Trebizond, when I had charge of it in 1855, and other circumstances—as regards two questions, viz. :—

Whether it would be necessary for Mr. Webster, who had lived five years consecutively at Kherson, to have his marriage advertised at Kherson, even though his marriage should be solemnized at Odessa, and—

Whether a Consul-General by the Foreign Office instructions issued with the Act, had or had not authority to appoint a delegate to solemnize marriages.

This, the inadmissibility of being married by a Presbyterian clergyman in an English house, and other matters, I endeavoured to explain to Mr. Webster pending the arrival of Mr. Blundell's answer; and I even recollect telling Mr. Webster that, as there was to be another marriage soon, had I been earlier informed, I might have applied to Her Majesty's Foreign Office for a warrant: adding that, as the case stood, I feared he must, notwithstanding his strong objections, marry at Odessa, if Mr. Blundell's services could not be secured; and, on hearing his betrothed was coming out *viâ Constantinople*, I also suggested the expedient of his going to meet her and getting married in the Embassy

chapel at Pera, tendering letters to my sister, Mrs. Guarracino, who, I said, would take care of the lady during any detention she may be subjected to at Constantinople.

When Mr. Blundell's reply came, receiving a note from Mr. Webster stating, "I shan't ask Murray to marry me at Odessa," I decided on referring to the Consul-General for instructions; Mr. Webster begging me, as he "in any case would go to Odessa to confer with the Rev. Mr. Clarke, not to write to Mr. Murray before he left, but to allow him (Mr. Webster) to carry my despatch in order that he may be able to furnish Mr. Murray with any information requisite;" Mr. Webster writing to me also, "I should very much like you to put up the notice of my marriage, for it would be very annoying were any delay to take place through its having been neglected."

Several days having elapsed, and as I saw no symptoms of Mr. Webster starting for Odessa, I informed him that I was about sending my despatch by the post, to which he replied:—

"I would rather take your despatch to Odessa; for, when I got there, Mr. M. might say, I have already sent instructions to Mr. Stevens: besides, I want to see about the special license. . . . Your letter leaving to-morrow will get to Odessa about Monday, the roads being fearful, and, in any case, we cannot receive an answer before Thursday next: and ere that I shall perhaps be on my way back, for the river is half free of ice. . . . By writing to-morrow you cannot advance the affair in the least."

Finally, Mr. Webster left on the 14th March, carrying my despatch of 6th idem to Mr. Murray, after first reading it, and asking me to add the concluding paragraph regarding his wish to be married the day following the arrival of his betrothed in Kherson, copy of which despatch I have the honour to transmit inclosed.

Mr. Webster returned to Kherson on the afternoon of the 18th March, and hearing of it, and receiving nothing from him, I wrote to ask him if he had delivered my despatch to Mr. Murray, sending word that, as I was ill and prevented from going out, I would feel obliged by his calling on me, which he did that night, bringing me three blank forms F, and three forms C, connected with the solemnization of marriages, which, he said, "the Consul-General had cut out of his register" for me: stating, at the same time, that Mr. Murray had said "that I could do as I pleased; that he (Mr. Murray) doubted very much whether Mr. Stevens was authorized to solemnize marriages, holding, as he does, no Commission; that Odessa being the central authority, Mr. Webster had better make out a notice, and when his betrothed arrives go and marry at Odessa, and that the Vice-Consulate at Kherson would probably be abolished soon;" Mr. Webster adding, that "he had given the Consul-General notice of his marriage."

I immediately took down and destroyed the notice which I had put up, and on the 20th March I received by the post a communication from Mr. Grenville-Murray in reply to my despatch, which, though marked private, concerns no other subject, and I therefore have no scruple in transmitting it inclosed in original.

I sent this communication to Mr. Webster for perusal, and on meeting him afterwards, and hearing from him that "the Consul-General had agreed to solemnize the marriage the day following the arrival of his betrothed from England," I recommended him not to consent to it, but to wait out the time required by law, citing the instance of my marriage at the Consulate-General of Constantinople and the importance attached by Mr. Consul-General Cumberbatch to this point of the law.

Three days later, having procured a copy of the Act of Parliament and an extract of the instructions from one of my colleagues, all doubt existing in my mind on the subject of the Consul-General's authority to empower a Vice-Consul to solemnize marriages was set at rest; but it enabled me again to call Mr. Webster's attention to the second section of the Act as regards the residence of each of the parties for one calendar month next preceding the marriage; telling him that, though section 13 stated that after any marriage had been solemnized under the Act it shall not be necessary in support of the marriage to give any proof of the actual dwelling for the time required by the Act of either of the parties previous to the marriage within the district, yet I could find nothing to show that evidence might not be admitted to prove that the marriage was not solemnized according to the provisions of the Act.

Mr. Webster argued that the Consul-General had taken a very fair view of this requirement of the Act by stating "how the case would be, if a man wished to marry immediately a dying woman whom he had wronged," to which I replied that his case could not come under that category.

My advice to Mr. Webster was offered in a strictly private sense, simply interesting myself on his behalf as a young gentleman whom I had looked upon for many years with deep interest; and I told him before his marriage that, not daring myself to offer advice to Mr. Murray, he was in duty bound to call his attention to the provisions of the Act,

urging Mr. Webster to forego his marriage for a month rather than fall into an error; and repeatedly tendering from both myself and Mrs. Stevens a lodging and a home for his intended during the time she would have to wait: and on his refusing, and stating that "the consequence of any error would fall on the Consul-General," I endeavoured to show him how poor a satisfaction this would prove to him; writing to him after his departure for Odessa for the purpose of getting his marriage solemnized, repeating my advice, and insuring the delivery of my letter into his hands, before the ceremony took place, and mentioning in this letter how Mr. Consul Cumberbatch, when at Berdiansk, refused to marry Mr. Graham—the very person who was then accompanying the future Mrs. Webster from England—before he and Mrs. Graham had strictly fulfilled the conditions of the Act, notwithstanding that Mr. Graham petitioned the contrary.

I should observe, that I also felt interested in the subject at issue, knowing that Mrs. Stevens' brother, Mr. Brennan—a Roman Catholic—who was married shortly after Mr. Webster to Mr. Webster's sister—a "Protestant Independent"—was about following the same course of getting married at the Consulate-General, by a Presbyterian clergyman; and on hearing, after the marriages were solemnized, of other omissions bearing on sections 6 and 9 of the Act of Parliament, I did not hesitate to express my private opinion, first to Mr. Webster, a few days after his marriage, and next to my brother-in-law, when about leaving Kherson, that they were to blame for allowing themselves to be led into what I look upon as a grave mistake; but as the case now stood, I would not, in the place of either of them, rest satisfied under the circumstances, without a reference to a higher authority; notwithstanding that Mr. Brennan said that "he had been guided by the opinion of a lawyer in Doctors' Commons," which I held to be insufficient; the expression of which opinions, made in the most friendly spirit, in the interest of two young men for whom I ever felt kindly, caused them to take offence, which was far from my meaning.

Under the instruction conveyed to me by the Foreign Office despatch now before me, I have deemed it necessary, my Lord, to state, as explicitly as possible, the part I took in counselling and assisting Mr. Webster on the occasion of his marriage, and beg to apologize to your Lordship for having lengthened my Report by entering into the private details connected with the subject, which I deemed necessary to prove that I never supposed that, as a Vice-Consul, I was authorized to solemnize marriages, not even after being told that I was authorized, by both Mr. Blundell and Mr. Grenville-Murray; and in doubt on the two points already referred to, with no other motive in view than that of serving Mr. Webster, who, far from suffering inconvenience, received both advice and attention, I thought I was only doing my duty by following the only instruction I had to guide me under such circumstances, being that given me verbally by Mr. Mathew when he handed me my letter of appointment as Vice-Consul at Kherson, to act upon my judgment, and refer a statement of all questions to the Consulate-General for instructions, in case I needed any, not anticipating the denial of an official reply, nor private steps which might have led me wrong were I less versed in Consular duties.

However Mr. Webster may have understood our discussions, if I require proof that, even in a moment of illness and suffering, I could not have conveyed the idea to him that I was competent "to perform the ceremony," I find them in a correspondence with Mr. Grenville-Murray subsequent to the marriage, extracts from which I have the honour to inclose; while the fact that I have always referred to the Consulate-General such British subjects who applied to me at Kherson to register the births of their children, I myself following the same course as regards mine, is additional, and, I venture to presume, sufficiently convincing testimony in support of my assertion.

If, since his marriage, Mr. Webster has felt anxiety—especially recently when he lost his first child, his wife's life being in imminent danger, circumstances which were nearly reversed—I am sure he will not deny that it has not arisen from any lack of either friendship or duty on my part, but from his own conviction that the party solemnizing the marriage was the real and only responsible agent if any illegality occurred, and which illegality, however much I may be mistaken, I held, and still hold, did occur, and may yet raise serious question as to the validity of both Mr. Webster's and Mr. Brennan's marriages unless remedied, which I have all along stated can only be done by a repetition of the Consular marriage, under a due and proper observance of the enactments of the law, unless other means exist, of which I am ignorant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Vice-Consul Stevens to the Rev. Dr. Blundell.

Reverend and dear Sir,

Kherson, February 26, 1866.

MR. RICHARD CLAYTON HARTLEY WEBSTER, a young English gentleman, residing here, is about to be married to a cousin of his, Miss Emma Webster of Derby, expected out here about a month hence. He has asked me to do the needful, and I therefore would beg you to inform me by return of post, whether you will be able to absent yourself from Odessa, for the purpose of solemnizing the marriage, which being between Protestants (Church of England), if performed by you at my house, will, I suppose, require no other formalities beyond registration at the Consulate-General at Odessa; nor do I believe that it is absolutely necessary to refer to the Consulate-General at all before the marriage: a hint from you on the subject will much oblige.

The navigation between this and Odessa, which was re-established a few days ago, is again interrupted by frost; but at this season it cannot last, and there will be no difficulty to your running up by the steamer. Mr. Webster, who will probably go to Odessa with his sister to meet his intended on her arrival from England, will, in all cases, take upon himself to conduct you hither. The time required for passage up and down, and the stay here, need not involve more than three days.

I believe this is all that is necessary to mention for the moment, unless I add the assurance of the pleasure it will afford both Mrs. Stevens and myself to make your acquaintance, and to subscribe myself, &c.

(Signed) . GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

The Rev. Dr. Blundell to Vice-Consul Stevens.

(Extract.)

Odessa, March 1, 1866.

I IMAGINE you have full power to perform the marriage without informing the Consul-General. It must, I believe, take place at the Consulate, in no other house.

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

Vice-Consul Stevens to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Kherson, March 6, 1866.

RICHARD CLAYTON HARTLEY WEBSTER, Esq., a British subject residing in this town, has, as you will perceive by the copy which I have now the honour to inclose, given me notice of his marriage, within a month of the 26th ultimo, with his first cousin, or cousin-german, Miss Emma Webster of Derby, now *en route* from England.

This Vice-Consulate never having been furnished with either a copy of the Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, entitled "An Act for facilitating the Marriage of British Subjects resident in Foreign Countries," nor any of the forms and registers, nor a warrant for solemnizing marriages, I have (while I accepted and posted up in my office, and on the door of this Vice-Consulate, a copy of the notice given by Mr. Webster), informed that gentleman that I would refer to you for further instructions, which I respectfully beg to solicit at your earliest convenience; Mr. Webster being very desirous of putting matters in order, hoping to be able to have his marriage solemnized on the day following the arrival of his betrothed in Kherson.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Vice-Consul Stevens.

(Private.)

My dear Stevens,

Odessa, March 16, 1866.

MR. WEBSTER delivered me your despatches, and I have given him for you some printed notices and marriage certificates. The marriage law even in England is in such an

uncertain state that a Royal Commission on the subject is now sitting. Few people know whether they are legally married or not, and rare indeed are the marriages which, if disputed, would not furnish costly work for the lawyers. As far as I am able to judge you are authorized to marry at Kherson, but I should not like to have a fortune depending on the result.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 48.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Vice-Consul Stevens.

(Extract.)

Odessa, April 12, 1866.

MR. WEBSTER told me you were offended at my note to you respecting his marriage. I should be really very sorry if this were true; and if you could fancy for a moment that it was my wish at any time to curtail or interfere with your legitimate authority I will, if you like, refer the question to the Foreign Office. . . . By the way, Mr. Webster is, it seems to me, very imprudent to encourage so much talk about his marriage. It is beyond all doubt or question legal and binding in the strictest sense of those words; but any idle gossip on such subjects merely gives one of those handles to ill-natured people which they are always too ready to take hold of and wrong their neighbours.

Inclosure 6 in No. 48.

Vice-Consul Stevens to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

(Extract.)

Kherson, April 17, 1866.

I HAVE been puzzled to explain how Mr. Webster could for a moment have conceived the idea that I was offended. I was fully aware that I had no authority to marry people, and I think my despatch to you on the subject fully proves this. Perhaps I looked annoyed for a moment on his return here with the blank forms and without a line from you in answer to my despatch, but to say I was offended is ridiculous.

In ignorance of the instructions as regards solemnization of marriages, when Mr. Webster gave me notice of his marriage I accepted it, subject to its reference to you, not knowing but what it would be necessary, as his residence had been at Kherson, to advertize the marriage here, though solemnized at Odessa, and not knowing but what you might have power to authorize a Vice-Consul to solemnize marriages.

No. 49.

Mr. Waddington to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 8.)

Sir,

Whitehall, February 7, 1867.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Walpole to inform you that the Solicitor to the Treasury having transmitted various documents, as received from the Foreign Office, to this Department, relative to certain marriages of doubtful legality which have taken place at Odessa, and which Lord Stanley was desirous should be legalized by Act of Parliament, with a request that the Home Office Counsel might be instructed to prepare a Bill to that effect, he has accordingly caused the inclosed draft Bill to be prepared; and I am directed to request that you will lay the same before Lord Stanley, and inform his Lordship that if the Bill meets with his approval, Mr. Walpole will be ready to bring it into Parliament.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. WADDINGTON.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Waddington.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 14, 1867.

IN reply to your letter of the 7th instant, inclosing the draft of a Bill for removing doubts as to the validity of certain marriages solemnized between British subjects at Odessa, I am directed by Lord Stanley to return to you the draft Bill in question, and I am to request that you will inform Mr. Secretary Walpole that Lord Stanley approves it, and considers that it may be submitted to Parliament.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Act referred to in No. 50.

30 VICTORIÆ, CAP. II.

An Act for removing Doubts as to the Validity of certain Marriages between British Subjects at Odessa.

[29th March, 1867.]

WHEREAS by an Act of the session of the twelfth and thirteenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter sixty-eight, and intituled "An Act for facilitating the Marriage of British Subjects resident in Foreign Countries," provision is made for solemnizing in foreign countries or places where there may be a British Consul duly authorized in that behalf, marriages between persons both or one of whom are or is British subjects or a British subject; 12 & 13 Vict. c. 68.

And whereas certain marriages have been solemnized at Odessa, in the Empire of Russia, by or in the presence of Eustace C. Grenville-Murray, Esquire, Consul-General, between persons being both or one of them subjects or a subject of this realm;

And whereas doubts are entertained as to the validity of certain of the said marriages by reason of a non-compliance by the parties thereto with the provisions of the said Act as to residence;

And whereas such non-compliance has arisen by reason of the inadvertence of the Consul to the provisions of the said Act, and not in consequence of any wilful neglect or default on the part of the parties to the said marriages;

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

I. All marriages solemnized at Odessa previously to the passing of this Act, by or in the presence of the said Eustace C. Grenville-Murray (both or one of the parties to such marriages being subjects or a subject of this realm) shall, notwithstanding any non-compliance with the provisions of the said Act of the session of the twelfth and thirteenth years of Her present Majesty, chapter sixty-eight, be held to be as valid as if all the provisions of the said Act had been duly complied with. Legalization of certain Marriages at Odessa notwithstanding non-compliance with recited Act.

II. Where in the copy of the entry of any marriage certified as required by the said Act such marriage purports to have been solemnized by or in the presence of the said Eustace C. Grenville-Murray, the production of such copy, or of any certified copy thereof, shall be evidence of such marriage having been solemnized by or in the presence of the said Eustace C. Grenville-Murray. Evidence of Solemnization of Marriage.

III. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Odessa Marriage Act, 1867." Short title.

Remission of Fees on Passports and Shipping by Mr. Grenville-Murray at Odessa ; and Grant of a Passport to Messrs. Vucina, Ionians, as Naturalized British Subjects : 1861-67.

No. 51.

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1861.

MISAPPREHENSION having appeared to exist on the part of some of Her Majesty's Consuls in regard to the rate of fees to be levied in certain cases, I am directed by Lord John Russell to state to you that, excepting under the special sanction of the Secretary of State, Consuls who levy Fees on account of Her Majesty's Government have no authority to remit or to reduce the amount ordered to be taken by the Act 6 Geo. IV, cap. 87, and by the Order in Council of the 1st May, 1855.*

If such a practice should have existed at your Consulate, you will forthwith discontinue it, but you will be at liberty to report to Lord John Russell the circumstances which may lead you to suggest that fees should in any case be reduced or remitted.

I am, &c.

No. 52.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord,

Odessa, September 19, 1863.

MESSRS. VUCINA, one of the most respectable firms in the south of Russia, and who are Ionian subjects, have requested me to give a letter to Mr. John Vucina, who is about to proceed to London for the purpose of expressing to your Lordship the earnest desire of himself and his family to become British subjects, notwithstanding the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece.

Messrs. Vucina are wealthy gentlemen, enjoying great consideration and social importance in this country; and if it were possible that I could say anything to further their views I should feel bound to do so. They are, in fact, the first commercial house under British protection in the south of Russia, and their personal feelings are not only strongly engaged in their desire to become British subjects; but doubtless their business interests would suffer materially if British protection were withdrawn from them.

Therefore it is my duty to submit to your Lordship whether it would be fair to withdraw from them so great an advantage when they have engaged in a large and anxious trade with the full belief that they possessed it, and were always entitled to appeal to it against injustice and oppression.

The case of a commercial firm under British protection here and in France for instance is widely different. In Russia the law is almost powerless, and the Commercial Code extremely confused and uncertain. The power of Great Britain, however, causes the interests of her subjects to be respected, and they certainly do enjoy an immunity from vexation and pillage which the subjects of other nations residing here do not.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 53.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Vucina.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 13, 1863.

HER Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa having informed Earl Russell that you were desirous that you and your family should become naturalized British subjects, notwithstanding the union of the Ionian Islands with the Kingdom of Greece, I am directed by his Lordship to transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of the regulations for the guidance of parties seeking to obtain letters of naturalization; and I am to add that any further communication you may wish to make on this matter should be addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 54.

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1864.

THE Protectorate of Her Majesty over the Ionian Islands having this day ceased, in virtue of arrangements made by the Queen with the King of the Hellenes, with whose dominions the Ionian Islands are now incorporated, I am directed by Earl Russell to inform you that the provisions of the 27th paragraph of the General Consular Instructions are no longer in force; and I am to desire that you will consider that paragraph, and other instructions respecting Ionians, as cancelled.

If, however, your good offices should be sought by a Greek authority in support of Ionian claims heretofore put forward through British instrumentality, you will be at liberty, during a term not exceeding one year from this date, to render such good offices to your Greek colleague.

I am, &c.

No. 55.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received September 29.)

My Lord,

Odessa, September 10, 1864.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship copy of an address which I have received from the Ionian residents at Odessa, together with my reply thereto, which I venture to hope that your Lordship may approve.

The Ionian inhabitants of this city are more than 10,000 in number. Many of them are wealthy merchants and bankers carrying on a large trade in Southern Russia and in the Levant, and having branch establishments in London, Paris, Marseilles, and even at Calcutta. I trust, therefore, that it cannot fail to be satisfactory to your Lordship that they entertain so grateful a remembrance of the aid and protection which they have enjoyed.

Although the address is, of course, intended rather for Her Majesty's Government than for me, I naturally feel deeply gratified that they should have taken leave of me with so much kindness, after six years of daily intercourse, during which I have been mixed up so intimately with the business of their lives. To me they have necessarily appealed in every case of doubt and difficulty, and though sometimes their affairs have been complicated and delicate, and have given me much labour and anxiety, I am far more than repaid by their assurance that we part upon such pleasant terms of friendship and mutual goodwill.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Address to Mr. Grenville-Murray from the Ionian Residents at Odessa.

WE, the undersigned Ionians, in taking leave of you, Sir, feel it our duty to express our sincere and respectful acknowledgments of the worthy and dignified manner in which you have filled during the last six years the responsible post of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General in the Russian ports of the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff, which you occupy, and have carried out the just and generous views of Her Majesty's Government towards us.

We feel that we have to thank you in the warmest language for the prompt and courteous attention which you have always given to our wishes; for the scrupulous justice with which you have arranged our differences; and for your constant zeal and energy in furthering our interests. We have always found in you a firm and loyal defender of our rights; and we, therefore, wish to express our sincere and profound esteem for the Government you represent so well, and for yourself personally.

Odessa, August 1864.

(Here follow the signatures of the principal Merchants and Bankers.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Reply.

(Translation.)

Gentlemen,

IT would be impossible for me to express to you how deeply I feel the flattering address which you have done me the great honour to present to me to-day. This day will be always remembered by me as one of the happiest of my life; for this is the second time that I have been thus distinguished by your noble fellow-countrymen, descendants of that great Hellenic race, which has given to the world the most splendid page of its history; which has left us such invaluable treasures; which in remote ages before the birth of England, inhabited a land, the home of valour, and the cradle of the Arts; and which was graced by the most remarkable civilization of ancient times.

This distinction does not prove any merit upon my part, but it certainly shows very kind feelings upon theirs. Indeed, it has always appeared to me that gratitude for the smallest services (a gratitude which makes of the person who has rendered them a debtor almost bankrupt) is one of the traits which particularly distinguished the Greek race. Therefore, although I disavow most sincerely any merit upon my part, I cannot but feel most honoured that, after a daily intercourse of six years, you have no reproach to make me.

I shall not fail to bring to the knowledge of the Government of Her Majesty my august Sovereign, this address, which really is made to the Government whose orders I have constantly endeavoured faithfully to obey, rather than to me personally. The illustrious Statesmen who surround the Throne of Her Majesty cannot but feel pleased to know that they hold so good a place in your memory.

Gentlemen, from my heart I thank you. The name of an Ionian will be always dear to me, as belonging to a people which has left me such kindly recollections, which has received me with such pleasant hospitality, and among whom I may venture to say I have found so many good friends. I thank you again and again; for the best pleasure that a public servant in our time can enjoy, is that of receiving the assurance that he has conciliated the esteem of public opinion.

No. 56.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord,

Odessa, January 15, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to return herein inclosed to Her Majesty's Foreign Office, the passport of Mr. Thomas J. Webster, who died recently in Kherson, and whose Russian permit of residence I have this day returned to the Governor-General's office for transmission to the Kherson authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 26, 1867.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 15th instant, returning to this office the passport granted to Mr. Thomas Webster, since deceased, I am directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that his Lordship observes that you viséed that passport, and added the word "gratis." I am to point out to you that, as you are bound to levy fees on account of Her Majesty's Government, you are not warranted in affixing your visa to a passport without making the usual charge.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 29.)

My Lord,

Odessa, January 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that, it having come to my knowledge while at Nicolaieff in October last, that several vessels of all nations, proceeding from the Black Sea ports to the ports of the West of Europe, had been exposed to vexatious delay when compelled to touch at intermediate ports, more especially those of Spain and Italy, from the fact of their being furnished with only a Russian bill of health, and none from their respective Consulates, and on the solicitation of shipmasters then at Nicolaieff,—I brought the subject under the notice of Admiral Governor Glazenap.

Whether emanating from my conversations with his Excellency, or any other source, a new quarantine regulation has now been put in force, by which all vessels leaving the Russian ports of the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff will take bills of health from the Consulates of the nations whither the ships are bound; which, not to encumber shipmasters with too many documents, have been printed in different languages at the foot of the Russian bill of health, for which latter a new regulation establishes a charge of about $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per ton, or, on an average, about 8s. per vessel.

The system of issuing bills of health for English vessels, and those of other nations bound to the United Kingdom and British possessions, though in use among most of the other Consulates here as regards their respective ships, appears, to judge from the Fee Cash-book, to have suddenly been relinquished here, in January 1861, without, as far as I can ascertain, any instructions from or reference to Her Majesty's Foreign Office—the levy of fees, until then in force, for "certificate of origin," "entrance," "registration," "clearance," and "annexing bill of lading"—a total of 1*l.* 15s. per every English vessel—likewise ceasing at the same time. While it cannot be disputed that the last five charges were for useless operations—for this office neither cleared nor entered the ships at the Custom-house—the first, when asked for, should not have been discontinued, for it is the only fee a British vessels pays, and never, to my knowledge, objected to by any shipmaster, all of whom prefer sailing with a bill of health from their Consulate, while its non-issue has entailed an annual loss to Her Majesty's Government of from 100*l.* to 125*l.* at least; which, with the grant of passports, issued "gratis," and other Consular duties performed under similar conditions, for parties not entitled to it from reasons of indigence or other considerations, I reckon should at least cover two-thirds of the annual allowance for office expenses of this Consulate-General, if not more, without in any way distressing its constituents.

During the twenty-five days I have been in charge of this office, the fees taken amount to 14*l.* 10s. 6*d.*; and notwithstanding the odium which will naturally fall upon me, after so long a period of generosity, for a strict adhesion to the Tariff, I shall deem it my duty to continue claiming the just fee for every service performed, unless otherwise instructed by your Lordship.

If I may be permitted to offer a suggestion for the better regulation of fees collected for account of Her Majesty's Government, I would suggest that all Consular duties performed be passed into the Fee Cash-book, those rendered gratuitously being entered as "gratis," with a short explanatory remark why so rendered. This, far from offending any Consular officer, would, on the contrary, strengthen the Consul's argument for enforcing the payment of many a fee which, either from bashfulness, or when claimed out of friend

ship, a Consul is often apt to forego, especially when he is aware that there is no possible chance of his generosity being questioned.

In conclusion, I beg to observe that the system of bills of health, now ordered by the Russian quarantine authorities, should produce an average revenue, by the levy of the English fee at the British Consular Offices of the ports of the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff, of from 600*l.* to 700*l.* per annum, a little more than half of which would fall on British ships, as far as I can judge from a rough calculation now before me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 59.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1867.

LORD STANLEY has received your despatch of the 18th instant, calling his attention, in connection with a recent quarantine regulation of the Russian Government regarding ships' bills of health, to the existing practice at the Consulate at Odessa of performing many Consular services "gratis," for which fees are properly chargeable; and stating that it is your intention to charge all proper fees on account of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, in reply, to acquaint you that Lord Stanley approves your proceedings, and desires that you will send home a Return of all entries made of Consular services rendered without any charge, with such explanations as may be forthcoming in regard thereto.

I am at the same time to call your attention to the Circular from this office of the 20th of May, 1861,* forming Inclosure No. 47 in the Consular General Instructions, which forbids Her Majesty's Consuls from releasing any persons from paying fees, excepting under the special sanction of the Secretary of State.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 60.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord,

Odessa, January 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that information has reached me that Messrs. Vucina, the wealthy merchants of this town, are about forming a branch commercial establishment at Nicolaieff, and I venture to solicit your Lordship's kind instructions as to the nature of the assistance they will be entitled to as British subjects, in case they may apply to either this Consulate-General, or the Vice-Consulate at Nicolaieff for protection, or Consular Offices.

Messrs. Vucina, judging from the entries made in the Register of Passports of this Consulate-General when the Ionian Islands were under British rule, were Ionians; a fact fully admitted by Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch to Her Majesty's Foreign Office dated September 19, 1863,† stating "their desire to become British subjects, notwithstanding the cession to Greece of the Ionian Islands." They, I believe, signed the address of the Ionians to Mr. Murray, on retiring from the British protectorate on the cession of the Islands; and I have other reasons to doubt that they were entitled to receive passports from this office on their requisition, copy of which, and of the entries in the "Register of Passports" of this office, I have the honour to transmit inclosed for your Lordship's information.

I beg to assure your Lordship that, in questioning the right to British nationality of Messrs. Vucina, I am actuated by no other motive than a sense of public duty, considering it of equal importance to their interests, as to those of the British Consular Offices on this side of the Black Sea, that there should be no doubts on the subject.

I should remark that, from a conversation I had with Mr. Perkins regarding the issue of these passports, it would appear that they were signed by Mr. Perkins as Acting Consul-General, but after he received permission to that effect from Mr. Grenville-

* No. 51.

† No. 52.

Murray, and that the bearers, Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina, have not yet been away from Odessa since the 1st November.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Messrs. A. and J. Vucina to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Odessa, October $\frac{15}{27}$, 1866.

WE, the Undersigned, do hereby solemnly declare that we have been British subjects, as our parents before us, and we therefore respectively request that you will be kind enough to deliver to us passports to show and prove our nationality.

We are, &c.
(Signed) ALEXANDER VUCINA.
JOHN VUCINA.

[*Memorandum.*—Signed by MM. Vucina, but in the handwriting of Mr. Lyon of Odessa.—G. A. S.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Extracts from the Book marked "Register of (British) Passports" of the Consulate-General at Odessa.

Entry "268:—" "Granted passport to Mr. Alexander Vucina, British subject travelling on the Continent, November 1, 1866. Gratis."

Entry "269:—" "Granted passport to Mr. John Vucina, British subject travelling on the continent, November 1, 1866. Gratis."

No. 61.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 19.)

My Lord,

Odessa, February 6, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 26th ultimo,* pointing out to me that I granted a visa to Mr. Webster's passport "gratis," and informing me that, as I am bound to levy fees on account of Her Majesty's Government, I am not warranted in fixing my visa to a passport without making and accounting for the usual charge. During upwards of eight years that I was Vice-Consul at Kherson, there being but two or three British subjects resident there, no ships, and my duties confined to reports, I had no opportunity to levy fees, and certainly there did not occur 20s. fees during the whole period, of which I remitted 12s.; the first 2s. causing at the time, if I recollect rightly, remark from Mr. Vice-Consul Cortazzi, as to the inutility of incurring postage on returns for such small sums; the second, 10s. levied on foreign vessels, producing similar remarks, ending in my insisting on their transmission to England; after which, the sums never amounting to more than 2s. in a year, I adopted the practice of not levying the small amounts, more especially as I concurred in the force of the argument that the transmission of such small sums incurred a loss, rather than a profit to Her Majesty's Government.

Other considerations in the particular case of Mr. Webster occurring, being that of his holding a situation under my then French colleague, where is also employed his brother, a gentleman who formerly rendered good gratuitous services to this Consular office, and who often assisted me afterwards at Kherson, by translating for me, and, where it would not have been prudent for me to appear, in obtaining, in conjunction with the only other British resident Mr. Brenan, my former assistant, information for reports, which, I am now happy to find, form the foundation of some of the most valuable of those transmitted to the Foreign Office by this Consulate-General.

Since my establishment at Nicolaieff, however, and my subsequent temporary transfer

to this Consulate-General, I have strictly enforced the payment of the just fees, as your Lordship will have perceived by my recent despatches; and far from meeting difficulty, as I expected, I am but too happy to bear testimony to the willingness of every one to pay them, my procedure not having so far in one single instance been questioned by any one of the shipmasters or any Englishman or foreigner claiming my offices, and at whose service I place myself from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. daily, without fail; thus, and by a quick despatch of business, which I have greatly facilitated, and am daily improving by the establishment of proper books and printed forms, &c., saving them valuable time and useless cab-hire, which, and the out-of-the-way position of the office, and not the payment of the just fees, appears to have been the question at issue between this office and its applicants, all busy business men as regards the fixed residents, while the shipmasters, for the most part regular traders, are naturally so, both forming as a body (with but two or three exceptions) one of the most worthy and well-conducted British communities out of England, deserving every consideration and attention; remarks which I am able to offer from a knowledge of most of them, during eight and a-half years' residence in this vicinity, my present observation, and the result of conversations with his Excellency the Governor-General and other personages regarding them.

The only difficulty I have been under regards the issue of passports; 156 of which have been, as noted in a book, issued "gratis" by this office from the 10th of November, 1860, to the 12th of November, 1866, and on an application for one to me a few days ago, uncertain whether the fee was rescinded by any Foreign Office instruction, and in the absence of proper books, with no leisure time at my disposal to examine into the matter by search among a voluminous correspondence, public, private, and confidential, all bound together in fourteen volumes, in confused roughs as regards the outward correspondence, I took it upon myself to issue it "gratis," more especially as the applicant, Mr. James Anderson, had recently rendered services by translating for me, and by attending with me at Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins' house to testify, if hereafter called upon, as to the state of the archives made over to me.

Two passports being now applied for by British subjects, I have, in the absence of special mention in the Tariff, decided on charging 5s. for each issue, on printed forms in lieu of those written on foolscap as heretofore, which I have known to cause difficulty to the bearers from their unofficial appearance.

While on the subject I beg leave to make application to your Lordship for one or two copies of the large printed Tariff of Fees for posting up in this office; and have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 62.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that he has learnt from Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, who has reported the fact in connection with a question which has been raised as to British protection being granted to Messrs. Vucina, of Odessa, that on the 1st of November last you issued British passports "gratis" to Messrs. Alexander and John Vucina.

These gentlemen, being Ionians, ceased to become entitled to British protection after the cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece, as stated in my circular of the 2nd of June, 1864.*

I am, therefore, to request that you will explain to Lord Stanley why you granted passports to persons who were not British subjects, therefore not entitled to them; and also why you issued passports without charging the usual fee upon them, to be accounted for to Her Majesty's Government. Upon this point I am to call your attention to the circular of the 20th of May, 1861,† forming Inclosure No. 47 in the Consular Instructions, which forbids Her Majesty's Consuls from releasing any persons from paying fees, excepting under the special sanction of the Secretary of State.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 63.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord,

London, February 21, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Murray's despatch of to-day's date, respecting the passports granted gratis to Messrs. Vucina, of Odessa.

In reply, I have the honour to state that the said passports were granted on the written declaration of two resident merchants that Messrs. Vucina were British subjects, and not Ionians.

I have not charged fees upon the very few passports ever issued by me at Odessa, because on consideration there appeared to me no distinct warrant for such charge in the Fee Table.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 64.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 26.)

My Lord,

Odessa, February 14, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship dated the 31st ultimo,* I have the honour to report that Mr. John Vucina called on me a few days ago, when, in the course of conversation, I deemed it the most straightforward course to inform him that I had referred the question of his and his brother's nationality to your Lordship.

Mr. Vucina, after mentioning having called on Mr. Under-Secretary Hammond at the Foreign Office four years ago,† when he was desired to lay his claim for British nationality before the Lord Mayor of London, but which course, he said, he had not time to follow, further stated to me that the passports recently granted to him and his brother by Mr. Grenville-Murray's order were only to enable them to finish a law-suit they had pending in the Tribunals of Kherson.

I informed Mr. Vucina that for such a purpose a passport "for travelling on the Continent" was not a proper document, and I stated that if his law-suit regarded his business while the Ionian Islands were under the British Protectorate, I would be happy to lend him both official assistance and the weight of my private influence with his Excellency the Governor of Kherson to secure any legitimate rights he or any other member of his family were entitled to, but he declined my offer, stating that they had determined on losing the suit under protest, which they intended entering at the office of the Greek Consulate-General in this town, without, however, offering to return the documents, which I refrained from suggesting, pending your Lordship's instructions; renewing to Mr. Vucina, at his urgent request, the permission to receive the newspaper "Indépendance Belge" under the address of this office, to prevent its censor—a privilege which he assured me he has enjoyed for the past three years, and which, being a private arrangement made by Mr. Murray, I did not consider it proper to rescind.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 65.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1867.

IN my letter to you of the 21st ultimo,‡ I inquired, by Lord Stanley's direction, why you had granted passports to persons who are not British subjects, and why you had not levied and carried to Government account, the fees chargeable on passports.

To this you replied, under the same date, "that the said passports were granted on the written declaration of two resident merchants, that Messrs. Vucina were British subjects, and not Ionians;" and that you had "not charged fees upon the very few passports ever issued by you at Odessa, because, on consideration, there appeared to you no distinct warrant for such charge in the Fee Table."

* No. 60.

† Nos. 52 and 53.

‡ No. 63.

I am now directed by Lord Stanley to refer you, as regards the first of these statements, to the following passage in your despatch of the 19th of September, 1863 :*—“Messrs. Vucina, one of the most respectable firms in the south of Russia, and who are Ionian subjects, have requested me to give a letter to Mr. John Vucina, who is about to proceed to London for the purpose of expressing to your Lordship the earnest desire of himself and his family to become British subjects notwithstanding the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece;” and I am to inquire how, having made that statement on the 19th of September, 1863, you could accept as proof of British nationality the following certificate dated October 27, 1866 :†—“We, the Undersigned, do hereby solemnly declare that we have been British subjects as our parents before us, and we therefore respectfully request that you will be kind enough to deliver to us passports to show and prove our nationality. (Signed) ALEXANDER VUCINA, JOHN VUCINA.” And on the strength of that certificate, grant to the parties severally, on the 1st of November, 1866,‡ passports numbered respectively 268 and 269, as “British subjects travelling on the Continent.”

Whatever protection as British subjects, citizens of the Ionian States were allowed in former times, that protection ceased on the 2nd of June, 1864. You must have been fully aware that these gentlemen were Ionians, for you stated them to be so in your despatch of September 1863, and therefore not entitled to British protection on the 1st of November, 1866; and yet on that day you granted them passports as British subjects.

With regard to your further statements that you had not charged fees upon the very few passports ever issued by you at Odessa because, on consideration, there appeared to you no distinct warrant for such charge in the Fee Table, I am first to inquire whether there is not found in that Table, authority to require a fee of 5s. “for annexing the seal of office and signature to any document not mentioned in or otherwise provided for by this Table?” And secondly, I am to remark that it appears that between the 10th of November, 1860, and the 12th of November, 1866, no fewer than 156 passports were issued “gratis” in the Odessa Consulate,§ on an average twenty-six in each year, and that, consequently, the loss to the Exchequer on this account has been 39*l.*, subject to any deduction in regard to any of the passports which may have been issued on the public service.

Lord Stanley directs me to say that he regrets that he cannot accept as satisfactory the statement made in your letter of the 21st of February, in respect either to the grant of passports to Messrs. Vucina, or to the omission to levy the appointed fee on the issue of passports since the 10th of November, 1860. But his Lordship is willing give you an opportunity further to explain your conduct in these respects, and he therefore abstains for the present from pronouncing any definitive judgment on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 66.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1867.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 31st of January and 14th of February,|| I am directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that Messrs. Vucina are clearly not entitled to be considered as British subjects, and that the passports with which they were improperly furnished by Her Majesty’s Consul-General at Odessa must be given up and cancelled.

In the event of Messrs. Vucina declining to return their passports, you will officially announce to the Russian authorities that they were granted to Messrs. Vucina in error, and that they cannot be held to afford those gentlemen any protection.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 67.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 4.)

My Lord,

London, March 4, 1867.

IN reply to Mr. Murray’s despatch of the 2nd instant, referring again to the passports issued gratis to Messrs. Vucina, I have the honour to state that the regulations observed

* No. 52.

† Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

‡ Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

§ No. 61.

|| Nos. 60 and 64.

at Her Majesty's Consulate-General for the issue of passports are the same as those established at the Foreign Office.

Therefore, when a respectable firm of resident merchants applied to me for passports, making a solemn declaration that they were British subjects, their request was granted in the usual way. The passage quoted from my despatch of the 19th September, 1863,* does not affect the question, as the Vucinas are a numerous family, and it may have been naturally supposed to refer to some other member; it being the custom of Greek mercantile houses in unsettled countries to have partners of different nationalities in order that their trade may not suffer by wars and political events.

It may be observed also that there was no apparent reason whatever to induce the partners in a firm so respectable as that of Messrs. Vucina to make a false declaration on the subject, and it would have been unbecoming for me to have doubted the truth of their statement, foreign protection conferring no advantages whatever in Russia, but, on the contrary, so that English tradesmen established there frequently renounce their nationality for increased facilities in business.†

With respect to the 156 passports granted gratis by me during the last six years, a fee was really leviable upon very few indeed of them, persons requiring passports at Odessa being nearly always distressed British seamen or paupers.

Had any attempt been made to levy a fee of 5s. on the few people able to pay, it might not unreasonably have been resisted. A traveller might have said:—

“A passport in London, to which is annexed the signature and seal of office of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, costs 2s. At Constantinople, a passport bearing the official seal and signature of Her Majesty's Ambassador, costs nothing. Even a Russian passport costs but 1s. 3d. Why, therefore, do you attempt to charge me 5s.? Certainly, by a forced construction, you may make the last paragraph of the Fee Table an excuse for such conduct; but, if so common a paper as a passport had been intended to be included therein, and charged at so unusual a price, it should have been plainly mentioned.”

Had this language been held to me by a traveller (and many travellers would have held it), I should not have felt justified in refusing him a passport and detaining him ten days at Odessa for the next boat. But if I have erred in judgment, I entreat your Lordship's indulgence and favourable consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 68.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 5.)

My Lord,

Odessa, March 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 31st January last,‡ acquainting me that your Lordship approves of my proceedings regarding the levying of all proper fees at this Consulate-General on account of Her Majesty's Government, desiring me to send home a return of all entries made of Consular services rendered without any charge, with such explanations as may be forthcoming thereto, and calling my attention to the Foreign Office Circular of 20th May, 1861, regarding a prohibition to forego fees excepting under the special sanction of the Secretary of State.

With reference and in compliance to the instruction conveyed to me I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship's information—

1. A return of passports and visas entered as granted “gratis” at this Office, and of passports and visas which, though not stated to have been granted gratis, do not appear, on reference to the fee book, to have been paid for; with an annex regarding a passport granted to Mr. Nereo Achille Ullo.

2. A return of births registered, for which only six partial fees have been levied.

3. A return of marriages, for which no fees have been credited Government.

4. A return of deaths, ditto.

5. A copy of a certificate under seal, ditto.

6. Copy of a letter and account regarding 50*l.* 1*s.* received for the examination of John Gray.

7. A Return of entries of services for which no fees have been credited to Government made up from a book called “Protest Book.”

To all which I have added such remarks as I am able: those in black ink, from

* No. 52.

† See No. 52.

‡ No. 59.

observations made in extracting from the books ; those in red ink, from information and observations of my own.*

The compilation of these Returns has taken up much time, more especially that made up from the protest book, kept evidently very irregularly, and as the fees, as a general rule have been credited Government after, and in some instances long after, the services were performed, it has required both study and time to make up the Returns, which, I may, perhaps, be permitted respectfully to recommend, might be revised by comparison with the copies of the fee cash book, sent home from time to time, to detect any error I may inadvertently have fallen into, though I have endeavoured to avert this by repeated revision of my notes, before making the fair copies for transmission to your Lordship.

It is impossible to rise from an examination of the entries made in the "fee book," without coming to the conclusion that Her Majesty's Government have been subjected to serious loss, since the epoch when this office was enjoined to collect fees for Government account ; while, prior to that date, the levy seems to have been so arbitrary and exaggerated that the unfavourable talk which it created at the time, has not, even after a lapse of seven years, wholly subsided, but, as no detailed record exists prior to the 20th August, 1859, as far as I can ascertain, no comparison can be made ; and it is equally as embarrassing to form any estimate of the fees which the Government has been deprived of ; but some idea may be formed at the end of this year, provided the system I have established of regular office hours, regular books and entries, and a strict adhesion to the collection of fees be obstinately persevered in, and for more accurately carrying this out, it would be necessary that the Consul-General be enjoined to sign and seal all documents himself, and not as heretofore "by his order," "for" him, and even his name without any attempt to disguise that it is not in his own handwriting.

I should mention that comparisons of the old fee-book of this office, with its former shipping-register, disclose many singular proofs of the general complaint made to me on my arrival here of the quasi non-existence of any British Consular Office in Odessa ; fees, for instance, appear not to have been levied for spaces of ten, fifteen, sixteen, and even thirty-five days (January 20 to February 27, 1866), an impossibility, I should say (after three months experience) if the office were regularly attended.

Besides those mentioned in the returns which I have now the honour to transmit with this report, other services for which the Government has not been credited any fees, would, in all probability, result by inquiry, and by a strict search among the archives, but in the absence of a reference book and properly docketed papers, amidst a want of order and regularity, evidently only very partially rectified when Mr. Perkins took charge of the archives, the task would be a long one, and my time has been so completely occupied by office matters, that I have been compelled to work sixteen and eighteen hours out of the twenty-four to keep pace with duty, notwithstanding much assistance given me by Mrs. Stevens, who keeps the despatch books. Every paper required has to be sought after for hours, and sometimes days ; and to establish order it would be necessary first, to separate all Foreign Office despatches from those which should be bound altogether in the book of general instructions, now mixed up until 1861, in one volume, and to remove the seals, which I insisted on Mr. Perkins' putting on nearly all the loose papers and despatches handed to me—after first running them through with string—to avert responsibility ; and next, to copy into books from the roughs, if they can be read, such despatches and papers as are of importance, making a reference book as the work proceeds.

In conclusion, I have the honour to state that I have no reason so far to alter the opinion which, from the knowledge gained during nearly nine years residence in this vicinity, I was induced to offer in my despatch of the 18th January,† that "the fees should cover two-thirds of the annual allowance for office expenses of this Consulate, if not more." Though in March but few vessels have arrived, the fees I have taken, with work, which will be entered to-morrow or next day, amount (since December 24) to upwards of 65*l.*, and with proper attention, it will I am sure result that my estimate was under drawn, for I reckoned the fees without those for the issue of Bills of Health at 100*l.* per annum, whereas they have averaged during the time I have levied them 136*l.* per annum.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

* The Remarks in Black Ink are printed in Roman, and those in Red Ink in *Italic*.

† No. 58.

Inclosure 1 in No. 68.

RETURN of Passports and Visas entered as granted "Gratis" by the British Consulate-General at Odessa, as appears by Entries in a Book marked outside "Register of Passports," and headed inside, "Remarks, including a Short Notice of any Official Duties which the Consul may have been called on to discharge. Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General, Odessa, January the 1st, 1858." And Return of Passports and Visas granted without Remark, but for which the Government has not been credited, as appears by comparison of the above-named Book with the Fee Cash Book of the Consulate-General, commencing August 20, 1859, before which no Record of Fees levied exists.

Date of Entry.	Number of Entry.	To whom issued.	If marked "Gratis."	Not marked "Gratis," but not passed in Fee Book.	Visa or Passport.	Remarks. (Those in <i>italic</i> offered by Mr. Stevens.)
1859						
Aug. 20	106	Liprandi Tvez ..	Gratis	..	Passport.	
No date	107	Alexander Graves ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Sept. 8	108	M. Corgialeagno ..	..	Not marked	Visa.	
12	109	Elia Mordo di Manrea ..	Gratis	..	Ditto.	
No date	110	Gio. Chiasio Christidi ..	Ditto	..	Passport.	
Sept. 26	111	Elena Yenich ..	..	Not marked	Visa.	
Oct. 1	112	Gregorio Sclavo ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	
4	113	Jane Cook ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	
6	114	Panjgio Potamean ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	
18	115	C. Mussuri ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	
29	116	Colonel Wilkinson ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	
29	117	J. H. Newman ..	..	Ditto	Ditto.	

The registry of Passports and Visas appears to have ceased at this epoch; and Passports and Visas were issued without a number, and without record, for above a year, when the record or registry of the issue of Passports was revived, but not that of the Visas; the above number "117" being followed a year later for the issue of Passports, as follows:—

1860							
Nov. 10	118	N. A. Ullo ..	Gratis	..	Passport.		
Dec. 10	119	R. T. Gibson ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
12	120	G. Spiridioni ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
12	121	G. Robinson ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
14	122	J. Allan ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
14	123	D. Adams ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
15	124	P. Sheriff ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
21	125	M. Dwyer ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
21	126	D. Moloney ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
1861							
Feb. 21	127	C. Pope ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
27	128	N. Sumotas ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Ionian.
27	129	G. Sumotas ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Ditto.
Mar. 26	130	Mrs. Corafa and children ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Ditto.
Apr. 1	131	M. Barrowitch ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Ditto.
2	132	G. Hume ..	..	Not marked	Ditto.		
23	No number	W. F. M. de Terrelonge ..	Gratis	..	Ditto.		
24	133	M. N. Mihele ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
25	134	Olivia Barklay ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
May 1	135	M. Carafa ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
11	136	M. A. Zorn ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
29	137	G. Sclavo ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Ionian.
June 1	138	J. Young ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
14	139	M. Phi. Boardman ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
28	140	M. G. A. Dine ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
30	141	M. J. Mitchell and his mother	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
July 4	142	H. Mullins ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
18	143	T. Moore ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
26	144	J. G. Voutzina ..	..	Not marked	Ditto.		
Nov. 5	145	Eliza Carter ..	Gratis	..	Ditto.		
14	146	Emma Mitchell ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
Dec. 16	147	Wm. Redbourn ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
19	148	J. W. Firth ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
19	149	R. Rich ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
1862							
Jan. 1	150	A. Sclavo ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
11	151	Annie Davies ..	..	Not marked	Ditto.		
22	152	P. Lefevre and family	Gratis	..	Ditto.		
22	153	Janet Orr ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
25	154	J. Lindsey ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
31	155	John Anderson ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
Feb. 3	156	R. Heather and wife	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
Mar. 14	157	W. Clarke Keith ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
20	158	Oscar Perkins ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
Apr. 24	159	H. Hobbard ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
28	160	M. Solomons and family	Ditto	..	Ditto.		
May 9	161	Jos. Touville Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	..	Mr. Owen in 1858 told Mr. Stevens he was a Norwegian. Deceased at Odessa. Mrs. Owen an English woman.

Date of Entry.	Number of Entry.	To whom issued.	If marked "Gratis."	Not marked "Gratis," but not passed in Fee Book.	Visa or Passport.	Remarks. (Those in <i>italic</i> offered by Mr. Stevens.)
1862						
May 9	162	H. P. Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Supposing Mr. Owen's statement to be true, these are children of the above marriage—of Owen, a Norwegian, to an English woman. Authority for grant of these passports not on record.
9	163	Caroline Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
9	164	Adeline C. Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
9	165	Sophie Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
9	166	A. L. Owen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
The number following "166" is not on record, the book only showing a blank space.						
No record	168	Anna Zacco ..	Gratis	..	Passport.	
June 3	169	J. Barton ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
3	170	M. Jagger ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
12	171	C. Baxter and child ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
30	172	W. Millar ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
July 29	173	Nicola Rosolimos ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Aug. 1	174	N. Berkenshaw ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
5	175	J. Spencer ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
11	176	A. Walter ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
23	177	Mrs. G. A. Stevens ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Wife of Vice-Consul Stevens.
29	178	G. Millar ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Sept. 5	179	F. A. Coradini ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
5	180	Mrs. Coradini and daughter	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
5	181	Fd. Coradini ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
5	182	A. Coradini ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
5	183	J. Coradini ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
10	184	Helene Metaxa and son ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
19	185	Robt. A. Smith ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
29	186	John Peach ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Oct. 13	187	John Anderson ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	See No. 155. Entry January 31, 1862.
25	188	J. Prince Williams ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
25	189	A. Stauden ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Nov. 3	190	B. Tagliaferro ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
14	191	E. Tagliaferro ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
17	192	A. M. Bisset and children ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Dec. 6	193	L. Kombothakla ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
1863						
Jan. 10	194	R. Harper ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
29	195	G. O'Connor ..	Gratis	..	Passport.	
Feb. 4	196	Salvo Vassallo ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Originally from Malta; real name Vassallo Tagliaferro; handed in December 1866, by Mr. Stevens to Russian police for forgery. Is a Russian subject and in prison. Evidently the same person. Widow of Salvigny, a Russian; married to Brecher, of Theodosia, son of an Englishman by a Russian lady, and consequently a Russian subject. Authority for issue of these passports not on record.
7	197	Maria Brecher ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
13	198	Maria Brecher ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	
19	199	Margherita Tagliaferro ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
26	200	Mary Prout ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Mar. 26	201	G. di Costantino ..	Not marked	..	Ditto.	
Apr. 7	202	R. and S. Harrison ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
18	No number	J. de Terrelong ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
27	203	C. Coles ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
May 20	204	Emma Meadows ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
23	205	Ths. Sherwood ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
29	206	Catherine Loreado ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
June 19	207	Geo. Voutcina ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Ionian.
27	208	Anastasie Lambidi ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
27	209	G. F. Haddington ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
July 3	210	A. H. Connor ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
7	211	Vassili Metaxa ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Good only as far as Constantinople.
25	212	T. W. Woodhouse ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Aug. 7	213	Robt. Heather and family ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	See entry, February 3, 1862.
15	214	Abel Standen ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	See entry, October 25, 1862.
15	215	J. Paul ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
24	216	E. Oakley and child ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Sept. 7	217	A. Pagoni ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Oct. 8	218	Geo. Dean ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
Nov. 28	219	G. A. Stevens ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Vice-Consul proceeding on service to Constantinople.
1864						
Feb. 4	220	E. Vassiliotti ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
12	221	S. Grillet ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
13	222*	Rose Browne and daughter	Ditto	..	Ditto.	
1863						
May 1	223	Anna Meyer ..	Ditto	..	Ditto	Granted at the request of the Abbé Serié (a Frenchman).
1864						
Mar. 8	224	P. J. Serié ..	Ditto	Not marked	Ditto	Granted at the request of the Abbé Serié.
Mar. 8	225	Anna Serié ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
11	226	G. Robinson ..	Ditto	..	Ditto.	

* I cannot explain how Passport 222 was issued on 13th February, 1864, and Passport 223 on May 1, 1863. The entries are exactly as above.

Date of Entry.	Number of Entry.	To whom issued.	If marked "Gratis."	Not marked "Gratis," but not passed in Fee Book.	Visa or Passport.	Remarks. (Those in <i>italic</i> offered by Mr. Stevens.)
1864						
Apr. 4	227	Helen Schneider and four children	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. Detained by the Russian authorities.
21	228	Ditto, ditto	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
May 9	229	Alexr. Vuccina	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>Styled British subject: an Ionian.</i>
16	230	Mary Inglesi	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. Ionian subject.
16	231	T. Hall	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
17	232	E. Oakley and two children	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>Received also a Passport in August 1863.</i>
17	233	M. Skelley	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
June 7	234	Demitri Inglesi	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. Ionian subject.
13	235	John Hoskin	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
July 7	236	John Barton	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
8	237	R. Woolver	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
8	238	R. Howe	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Aug. 20	239	W. Britton	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
20	240	W. Taylor	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
20	241	W. Jones	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Sept. 13	242	N. A. Ullo	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>This Passport is signed "E. C. Grenville-Murray," by Mr. Smith, and at Mr. Ullo's request I have issued a new one to him. See retired Passport annexed.</i>
24	243	E. Jones	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Oct. 15	244	P. Vella	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
17	245	F. Baida	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
no day	246	J. Zohrab	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Berdiansk.
Nov. 14	247	Leo Jackson	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
1865						
Feb. 16	248	James Cortazzi and daughter	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
16	249	James Cortazzi	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Apr. 25	250	John Hoskin	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>See entry, June 13, 1864.</i>
July 15	251	Jane Robinson and daughter	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Aug. 24	252	T. Smith	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
24	253	D. Mehagan	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Norecord	254	J. Zohrab	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. Travelling on special service for Her Britannic Majesty's Government.
Sept. 19	255	E. Tagliaferro	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
1866						
Jan. 16	256	J. Rosseter	Gratis	.. ..	Passport.	..
Norecord	257	A. White	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Feb. 23	258	Mary Facee and two daughters	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Mar. 12	259	Mrs. C. Perkins	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Apr. 7	260	F. A. Zorn	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
21	261	G. Dickson	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
May 31	262	Mrs. A. Galea and her son	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Aug. 10	263	Margherita Tagliaferro ..	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>Retired on issue of 270, and handed to me in Passport Register by Mr. Perkins.</i>
10	264	Ariane Tagliaferro	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
10	265	Albert Tagliaferro	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Oct. 24	266	E. C. G. Murray	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
29	267	Jas. Furness	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
Nov. 1	268	Alexr. Vucina	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	} <i>Ionians, as reported by Mr. Stevens to Lord Stanley in despatches of January 31 and February 14, 1867.</i>
1	269	John Vucina	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	
8	270	Margherita Tagliaferro ..	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	
8	271	Catherine Inglot	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	
12	272	Mich. Wilton	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto.	..
1867						
Jan. 31	273	Jas. Anderson	Ditto	.. ..	Ditto	.. <i>Granted by Mr. Stevens, as reported in despatch of February 6, 1867, to Lord Stanley.</i>

Inclosure 2 in No. 68.

Extract of a Letter in Italian addressed to the Consulate-General at Odessa, on the 22nd April 1867, by the British Subject (native of Malta), Mr. Nereo Achille Ullo, son of Salvatore.

(Translation.)

I ALSO, Sir, inclose my passport, begging you will change it for me, the signature of the Consul-General being in the handwriting of his clerk Smith, and not in the handwriting of the Consul-General, which causes me much trouble every time that it becomes necessary to prove my nationality, as may be known, if necessary, by a reference to the Consulate-General of Constantinople, which pointed out to me this great irregularity, and had I not been known in that town I would have had great trouble.

Inclosure 3 in No. 68.

RETURN of Births Registered at the British Consulate-General at Odessa, for which only *Six* Fees appear to have credited the Government, between August 20, 1859, and December 31, 1866, when Mr. Stevens commenced levying 4s. 6d. for every Registry (with certified copy if required), as per Foreign Office Instruction of November 7, 1849.

Date of Entry.	No. of Entry.	Name.	Remarks.	
			(Those in <i>Italic</i> are offered by Mr. Stevens.)	
No year of birth or registry recorded; but the year of birth in the previous entry being April 1859, it may be inferred that that the next is:—				
1860.				
May 6	4	Charles Chapman.	Year 1860, recorded } Signing Consular Officer, F. A. Cortazzi, Vice- Consul.	
" 12	5	Annis E. Wymer ..		
" 14	6	Daniel Thaw ..		
" 28	7	Helen A. Schneider ..		
1861.				
August 7	8	Alfred De Ritter ..	{ On August 19, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry } Signing Consular Officer, F. A. Cortazzi, Acting Consul-General.	
August 31	9	Sarah L. Paggi ..		
September 12			{ On September 12, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry }	
1862.				
December 1	10	Jane H. Orr ..	{ On December 1, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry. } Signing Consular Officer, E. C. Grenville-Murray.	
1863.				
March 11	11	Fredk. H. Goldsmith ..	{ On March 11, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry }	
May 23	12	Robt. P. Lockhart ..	{ Born August 24, 1863, in Steblow; registered same day in Odessa } { On August 24, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry. }	
August 24	1	Jane S. Oakley ..		
September 7	14	Alice De Ritter ..	{ Born of same parents as "Jane S. Oakley," October 10, 1863 } { On November 4, 2s. 6d. was credited Government for this entry.. .. }	
November 9	15	Richd. T. Oakley ..		
December 11	16	Constantine Noonan ..		
1864.				
February 15	17	William Thaw ..	{ Children of Vice-Consul G. A. Stevens } Signing Consular Officer, T. G. Smith for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.	
" 19	18	Jessie C. Orr ..		
April 8	19	Robt. A. Schneider ..		
" 8	20	Emma Schneider ..		
September 23	21	Julia Regina Stevens ..		
" 23	22	Alexander J. Stevens ..		
" 23	23	Henry Noel G. Stevens ..		
November 28	24	Jane E. Cullen ..		
1865.				
May 2	25	Edw. W. Goldsmith ..	Child of Vice-Consul Stevens ..	
" 8	26	Edw. C. Oakley..		
July 17	27	Rosina E. L. Stevens ..		
August 5	28	Elizab. M. Noonan ..		
December 2	29	Alice Pridgeon ..	{ The informant, Rev. Mr. Clark, has explained that the first entry should be cancelled, the child having been entered under a wrong name. Mr. Clark paid no fee for registry, but Mr. Smith (Mr. Clark asserts) charged and received from Mr. Clark one silver rouble for copy of this entry under seal } Born Dec. 20, 1865	
1866.				
January 23	30	John Alexr. Robertson..		Signing Consular Officer, E. C. Grenville Murray.
March 31	30	Geo. Alexr. Robertson ..		
May 26	31	Margaret A. Orr ..		
September 19	32	Ada De Ritter ..	Signing Consular Officer, E. C. Grenville Murray.	
" 20	33	Sarah Jane Robertson ..		

Inclosure 4 No. in 68.

RETURN of Marriages Solemnized at the British Consulate-General at Odessa, for which no Fee appears to have been Credited the Government, between August 20, 1859, and December 31, 1866, when Mr. Stevens (on February 13, 1867) commenced levying Fees, receiving on the last-named day; and crediting Government 10s. for Notice of Marriage of Mr. Clotworthy Walkinshaw (marriage not yet solemnized), pursuant to stipulation of Act of Parliament.

Number of Entry.	Date of Marriage.	Names.	Remarks.
7	November 6, 1859 ..	Marriage of William Dove Dixon, by Licence ..	Both English.
8	February 18, 1860 ..	Rudolph Theodorovitz, by Banns ..	
9	November 9, 1861 ..	Ernest Edwards, ditto ..	Only gentleman English.
10	" 14, 1861 ..	Evelina Mallan, ditto ..	Lady only British subject.
11	November 23, 1861 ..	Nereo Ullo, ditto ..	Gentleman British subject.
12	July 6, 1862 ..	J. E. Goldsmith, ditto ..	Both English.
13	October 5, 1862 ..	L. Noonan, ditto ..	Gentleman only English.
14	" 26, 1862 ..	Catharine Downing, ditto ..	Lady only English.
15	January 18, 1863 ..	Robert Lockhart, ditto ..	Both English.
16	July 5, 1863 ..	Matthew Jagger, ditto ..	Gentleman English.
17	August 23, 1863 ..	Richard Oakley, ditto ..	Both English.
18	January 17, 1864 ..	John Dinsmore, ditto ..	Gentleman English.
19	September 14, 1865 ..	William Laney, ditto ..	Both English.
20	October 18, 1865 ..	George Goddard, ditto ..	Gentleman English.
21	April 7, 1866 ..	Richd. Webster, by Licence ..	Both English.
22	May 10, 1866 ..	James Kirk, ditto ..	Gentleman English.
23	May 12, 1866 ..	John Robertson, ditto ..	Both English.
24	June 11, 1866 ..	William Brenan, ditto ..	Both English.

Inclosure 5 in No. 68.

RETURN of Deaths Registered at the British Consulate-General at Odessa, for which no Fee appears to have been credited the Government, between August 20, 1859, and December 31, 1866, when Mr. Stevens commenced levying 4s. 6d. for every registry, as per Foreign Office Instruction of November 7, 1849.

Date of Entry.	Number of Entry.	Name.	Remarks.
(Those in <i>Italic</i> are offered by Mr. Stevens.)			
September 16, 1864 ..	1	Richd. T. Oakley ..	Signing Consular Officer, by order, T. G. Smith for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.
" 23, 1864 ..	2	Alex. J. Stevens ..	Ditto.
May 5, 1866 ..	3	Wm. Symons ..	Signing Consular Officer, E. C. Grenville-Murray, Consul-General.
November 14, 1866 ..	4	Hy. Pridgeon ..	Signing Consular Officer, Jas. Perkins, Acting Consul-General.
" 30, 1866 ..	5	T. J. Webster ..	Ditto. <i>Mr. Webster's brother subsequently applied for a copy under seal, for which I levied a fee of 5s.</i>
December 31, 1866 ..	6	H. N. G. Stevens	<i>Children of Vice-Consul Stevens.</i> Signing Consular Officer, George Alexander Stevens, Acting Consul-General.
" 31, 1866 ..	7	Rosina E. L. Stevens	

Inclosure 6 in No. 68.

Certificate issued by the Consulate-General at Odessa, under Seal of Office, presented to Acting Consul-General Stevens, with a Petition (regarding the ill-treatment in 1865 of Francesca Brincat) by Giuseppe Brincat, a British subject, native of Malta, for the issue of which Certificate no Fee has been credited to Government.

Consulat-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique,
Odessa, le $\frac{5}{17}$ Décembre, 1866.

LE Consulat de Sa Majesté Brittanique certifie que l'affaire de Mademoiselle Françoise Brincatt, qui se plaint de M. Jean Bellini, de l'avoir forcée, séduite et trompée, a été remise au jugement du Consulat-Général d'Italie:

En foi de quoi elle a été munie du présent certificat, afin de faire valoir ses droits auprès des autorités locale.

(Signé)
(L.S)

JAS. PERKINS,
Acting Consul-General.

[No record of this certificate was made on its issue.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 68.

Copy of a Letter existing among the Archives of the British Consulate at Odessa, headed "Letters from Persons on Public Business;" and Copy of an Account on record in the Consulate-General, among papers in a brown paper cover, labelled "Examination of George Gray."

Grosvenor Investment Company (Limited) v. Albert.

3, New Boswell Court, Lincoln's Inn, London,
October 17, 1866.

Sir,

I REGRET that you should have had to write to me for your fees due in this matter.

The Commission did not arrive in time for it to be of any service before the long vacation, and I subsequently left town.

I now beg to inclose a cheque for 50*l.* 1*s.* I tried to obtain a remittance through a banker here, but could not.

The 50*l.* 1*s.* includes 3*l.* 3*s.* for your travelling expenses, and 18*l.* 18*s.* for your six days' attendance, in addition to the 28*l.* you are out of pocket.

In case you think the allowance I have made insufficient, I shall be obliged by your letting me know, and I will try to increase it. The nature of the action and the insolvency of the plaintiff does not warrant a large outlay.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD PADDISON.

Clerk's Account.

Attendance on Commissioners appointed by the Court of Queen's Bench, E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, and T. C. Smith, Esq., United States' Consul, to take the deposition of Mr. George Gray, witness in a cause now pending in that Court.

	£	s.	d.
July 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 16, six days' attendance..	..	..	12 12 0
Interpreter's charge ..	..	..	12 0 0
Stationery ..	..	..	0 8 0
Hackney coach/hire, 24 miles, to Lüstdorff, being 12 miles from Odessa, four times ..	..	..	3 0 0
	£28	0	0

Odessa, July 16, 1866.

(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

Received the above sum from E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.

(Signed) JAS PERKINS.

Remarks by Mr. Stevens.

A brown paper cover labelled "Examination of Geo. Gray," inclosing the documents for the examination of George Gray, issued by Baron Bramwell in favour of Mr. Grenville-Murray, "Her Majesty's Consul-General," and copy of the report of the examination signed by "E. C. Grenville-Murray, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General," and the original of which was apparently "sealed" with the Seal of Office, was handed to Mr. Stevens as part of the archives of the British Consulate-General.

Not feeling competent to judge if private remuneration can be taken by a Consul, for services rendered, signed and sealed officially, Mr. Stevens, in virtue of the instructions

conveyed to him by Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 31st January, considers himself bound to refer the matter to Her Majesty's Foreign Office, more particularly as in a letter (on record in the brown paper cover) from Mr. Howard Paddison to Mr. Grenville-Murray (in his official capacity) the following paragraph occurs:—

"I have received your telegram and have made inquiries at the Foreign Office, where I was informed that it was quite a usual thing for Consuls to take evidence on Commissions, as proposed in this case, and that you would be perfectly justified in acting as Commissioner."

Mr. Stevens deems it just to mention that Mr. Perkins has stated to him that the money taken in this manner was for him (Mr. Perkins), who, and not Mr. Murray, conducted the examination (for the defendants) with Mr. Timothy Smith, the American Consul at Odessa, Commissioner for the plaintiff, by whom he was paid separately, Mr. Grenville-Murray taking no part, beyond affirming Mr. Perkins' proceedings by his seal and signature.

Inclosure 8 in No. 68.

RETURN of Entries of Services made in a Book kept at the British Consulate-General at Odessa, marked "Protest Book," and for which services, no Fees have, as far as Mr. Stevens can ascertain by a comparison with the Fee Cash Book, been credited to Government.

No. of Entry.	Date of Entry.	Description.	Remarks.
499	No date ..	Declaration made by T. Gouch, master of the "Arabistan," against Mr. France, referring to transactions regarding freight which occurred on October 29 and 30, 1860	In the Fee Book I find a credit pass to Government of 1 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> on November 5, 1860, for "Protest and Discharge," barque "Arabistan," but in the original document the word "Protest" has been taken out, and this paper is, therefore, only a declaration.
501	Nov. 9, 1860	Protest of the brig "Margaret Elizabeth	
504	Following entry Nov. 18, 1860 No date	Yesterday at 8.30, in consequence of the gale and heavy swell then raging, I was obliged to get an anchor and cable from the shore as the ship was touching the ground; and to avoid further accidents we employed a steamer to tow her into deep water. (Follow five blank lines.) (Signed) SAMUEL COOK.	This is an identical copy of this entry in Mr. Grenville-Murray's own handwriting; it is probably meant for a note of protest; something was probably to be added and forgotten. Between entry 503 (not ruled off as usual, and signed Francis Pearson) and this entry, 504, a blank space of twenty-four lines occurs.
511	Nov. 15, 1860	Noting protest "Tynemouth" ..	The date, November 15, 1860, is the date this entry was made.
512	Nov. 15, 1860	Noting protest "Wm. Wallis" ..	The date November 15, 1860, is the date the "Wm. Wallis" was wrecked. The entry, or note of protest bears no date.
515	Nov. 24. 1860	Stamped and registered letter for barque "Wm. Wallis," a wreck. Giving over said wreck and stores to Lloyd's agent	This is an identical copy of this entry in Mr. Grenville-Murray's own handwriting. No protest seems to have been extended, no surveys held, no act of abandonment made, and no fees whatever received, regarding this wreck.
516	Nov. 24, 1860	M. Rigs protested against Captain Potter, barque "Cowlitz," that 300 barrels of pitch shipped by Messrs. Ottier and Co., of London, had not been duly delivered to him	This is an identical entry in Mr. Grenville-Murray's own handwriting.
518	..	A power of attorney (following an entry of protest, barque "Eagle," without a date) from Mr. William France, of Odessa, in favour of Mr. William France, of Leeds	Bears neither signature nor date, but nothing to show it was cancelled. In the Fee Book, under date November 30, No. 531, I find the following entry:—"Certified signature and recorded document for Mr. France."—S. T.
520	Dec. 9, 1860	An entry headed "Affiance," &c., signed "Henry Stratton," having reference to a dispute of evidently some English vessel (not named) with the crew of the Austrian barque "Pace."	Embodies very bad language said to have been used by the crew of the "Pace," probably meant as a protest against the "Pace," and if "Affiance," &c., means the name of a vessel, no doubt it is so. The entry is in Mr. Smith's writing.

No. of Entry.	Date of Entry.	Description.	Remarks.
521	Dec. 10, 1860	A sort of protest entered by Henry Job, master of the barque "Corea" against Mr. Angela	The word "protest" does not occur in this document, but as Captain Job states, "I therefore hold them responsible for it," it may be inferred it is a protest. The entry is in Mr. Smith's writing.
524	Dec. 10, 1860	A sort of protest as follows:— C. "George Venus," barque "Pochantas." The same vessel, barque "Theresa," has done him damage amounting to about 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , in consequence of his heaving through the tier with his cat-head projecting out, which might have been avoided if proper precaution had been used. (Signed) GEO. VENUS.	Entry in Mr. Smith's writing. This is an identical copy of the entry; before this entry occurs one of the barque "Helen Baird," which protests against the Genoese barque "Theresa" for assault and damage, entered under No. 523, on December 10, and 5 <i>s.</i> fee credited Government on January 3, 1861; while entry 522, made on December 10, 1860, was credited Government on March 8, 1861, (being note of protest "Earl of Shaftesbury").
525	Dec. 12, 1860	Protest for W. B. Hopper, agent for the Norwegian Assurance Association of Porsgrund	Entered as follows in the Fee Book on December 12, 1860: "No. 538, Cancelled (Mr. Hopper's protest);" entry not however cancelled in the book.
527	No date ..	Is a translation of a receipt regarding 16,800 bottles of porter declared at the Odessa Custom-house by Mr. Milovanoff, and is followed by—	Can offer no explanation, unless that these documents were copied into the Protest Book by mistake, and that they were entered for registration.
528	No date ..	Another translation, also headed receipt, and regarding the same matter	
552	Dec. 18, 1861	Registered protest of Mr. Vucina ..	This is an identical entry in Mr. Smith's writing. In Fee Book I find the following entry: "December 20, 1861, 247, Mr. Vucina, protest 1 <i>l.</i> " This probably is a registration of this protest.
554	Dec. 28, 1861	Registered protest. Loss of barque "Marmion"	This is an identical entry in Mr. Smith's writing. In Fee Book I find the following entry: "January 4, 1861, certified copy of protest, barque 'Marmion,' 5 <i>s.</i> ; and this probably is meant to represent the registration of this protest, but no protest exists in the book, and no fee for protest in the Fee Book.
559	Apr. 23, 1862	Protest of Mr. John Baylis, agent of Sir John Rennie and George Furness, against E. Mahs and Co., Bankers, of Odessa, for not honouring credit of Mr. Cutbill, of London, for 11,500 <i>l.</i> , in favour of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa	In the Fee Book I find the following entry: April 23, protest, Mr. John Baylis (cancelled)," and the amount scratched out with a penknife. Nothing, however shows that this protest was cancelled in the Protest Book. This entry follows entry 562, and is followed by entry 563; no other entry 559 is on record; the entries running thus: 558, March 18; 560, April 26; 561, April 29; 562, May 12; 559, April $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{3}$; 563, May 16, 1862.
566	July '4, 1866	Noting protest, barque "Ina," George Poole, master	On the 2nd August the "Ina" cleared, and on the 5th August she paid 2 <i>s.</i> for shipping a seaman.
571	Jan. 6, 1863	Noting protest, steamer "Avoca."	
575	Feb. 4, 1864	Noting protest, steamer "Ada" ..	Nil. Fee credited Government February 8, 1864, escaped attention in examining Fee Book in consequence of the name "Ada" being blotted over.
Nil.			

After entry 584, April 25, 1864, follows immediately entry 586, May 20, 1864; followed immediately by entry 590, June 11, 1864; followed by two entries with numbers, dates, names, and particulars, not filled up, and not signed; which two blanks are followed by entry 585, of May 11, 1864, and immediately after another entry, 586, of May 20; both entries, 586, are for protests noted by the "Pride of the Wear;" the one does not state what the master, John Atkinson, protests against; the other is a note of protest against his merchant (no name) for lay days. The Fee Book shows a credit pass of 5*s.* on May 20, 1864, for note of protest of "Pride of the Wear," but two separate entries, signed in order, appear in the book; the two blanks were evidently never executed.

593	Sept. 30, 1864	Noting protest, T. Suggit, barque "Ben Nevis."
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Following entry 593 is entry 589, dated June 9, 1854; and following entry 589 is —

No. of Entry.	Date of Entry.	Description.	Remarks.
591	July 30, 1864	Registered protest of David Cock, barque "William Stewart."	
Which entry is followed by another also numbered—			
591	July 30, 1864	Being the protest of Captain D. Cock.	
By entry No. 126 of August 2, 1864, in the Fee Book, a credit pass of 1 <i>l.</i> for barque "William Stewart," one protest; whereas two services seem to have been performed, one protest, and the other registration.			
592	Aug. 9, 1864	A declaration, being a counter declaration against Captain Cock, made by Mr. Iraclidi before Mr. Murray	On this date I find 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> credit pass in the Fee Book for registration of document, Mr. Iraclidi; probably this was the document registered. The document contains 900 words, and, besides the payment for it as a declaration, 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> is the proper charge for its registration, or 8 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; besides the fee for extending so long a document.
597 Nil.	Dec. 2, 1864	Noting protest, barque "Zenobia" ..	Nil. Subsequently discovered that Government was credited on February 4, 1865, for this fee, 5 <i>s.</i>
621	Dec. 24, 1864	Registered protest, barque "Idalia," Captain Thos. Ellison, December 24, 1864	This is an identical entry in Mr. Smith's handwriting. The "Idalia" paid 10 <i>s.</i> on January 8 or 9, for noting protest and extra copy, but I find no pass for registration*.
625	Jan. 3, 1865	Registered protest of Captain W. E. Ross, ship "Tiptree," dated January 3, 1865	Prior to these entries, is one numbered 623. Registered protest of Captain Charles <i>Osman</i> , master of the barque "Rosina," of Ayr, official number, 3308, dated December 29, 1864.
626	Jan. 9, 1865	Registered protest of Captain <i>Oman</i> , barque "Rosina," dated December 29, 1864. Registered January 9, 1865	(All identical entries in Mr. Smith's writing; showing that three protests were made; have not so far discovered them among archives; there being no reference book, search requires much time.)
*627	Jan. 12, 1865	Is a note of protest, barque "Idalia"	This is not evidently the above-mentioned protest. The "Idalia," therefore noted two protests; extended one, and registered it; and had an extra copy of one of those noted. I can come to no other conclusion.
Another entry also number—			
627	Jan. 23, 1865	Is a protest extended for the "Tiptree," composed of upwards 1,100 words	On the 21st January, Government was credited in Fee Book 1 <i>l.</i> for a protest of "Tiptree;" and on the 25th January 5 <i>s.</i> for "extra copy of protest, 'Tiptree,'" but this could hardly be for this protest made on the 23rd January, and for which the charge should have been, for protest 1 <i>l.</i> , extra words 1 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> The entries in Fee Book, as a general rule, have always been made after, and in some cases months after, the service has been performed. In only a very few cases does the Consul-General's signature exist throughout this book, but in this document it does exist, but does not seem to be in his handwriting.
Following this last entry, 627, is an entry numbered 623, February 13, 1865; followed by 624, February 14, 1865; followed by another also numbered—			
626	Apr. 22, 1865	Being a protest noted for the "Beautiful Star," and though the words "noting a protest" occur, it is in reality a protest extended; it being composed of 300 words and more	I can find no entry of any fee paid by the "Beautiful Star."
Following this 626, is another and third entry. originally 626, converted into—			
627	May 30, 1865	Being a note of protest of the steamer "Ada," which is also in reality an extension of protest	On June, 1865 (no day), I find a credit pass of 5 <i>s.</i> for note of protest "Ada," in the Fee Book.
630	Sept. 21, 1865	Is a note of protest of the barque "Anniversary"	On October 23, 1865, the Fee Book shows that the "Anniversary" paid 8 <i>s.</i> shipping fees, but nothing for protest.

Mr. Stevens will continue to search through the archives. The reading-up of documents, comparison of books, and more especially this Protest Book, have taken up considerable time, and several nights' work. He regrets to state that this Protest Book, which, from the nature of the documents in it should have been more properly called "Notarial Register," contains little that would be valid in law, an opinion which Mr. Stevens, who served his time as apprentice to a Notary Public, is perhaps competent to give. It was in consequence of this opinion that Mr. Stevens took upon himself, on receiving charge of the Consulate-General on December 24 last, and when he was called upon to draw up some notarial acts to serve in a matter regarding the steamer "Hector," whose owners were involved in a loss of 2,000*l.* about, in Mr. Perkins' time (since recovered through Mr. Stevens' acts and interference, leaving only 200*l.* about in suspense), to commence and establish a new register, entitled "Notarial Acts and issue of Seals of Office;" thus putting aside this Register of Protests which could never be produced in a Court of Law. Putting aside also the Fee Cash Book (nearly filled up), a book with many leaves cut out between September and October 1860, and showing other careless irregularities, now replaced by a book printed, paged, and kept in order, as may be seen by the copies which Mr. Stevens will be sending home at the end of March, 1867.

No. 69.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

Odessa, March 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 16th instant, of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 2nd instant,* informing me, with reference to my despatches to your Lordship of the 31st January and the 14th February that Messrs. Vucina are not entitled to be considered as British subjects, and that the passports with which they were improperly furnished by Her Majesty's Consul-General must be given up and cancelled; and in the event of Messrs. Vucina's declining to return them, instructing me to announce to the Russian authorities that they were granted in error.

Immediately on receipt of Mr. Murray's despatch, I wrote a letter to the Messrs. Vucina, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy for your Lordship's information, which communication they only noticed yesterday morning, when one of the brothers called at my lodging while I was engaged in my office, and left the passports with one of my children without even putting them under an envelope, or explaining in any manner the delay which has occurred since the date of my letter.

The passports being thus returned under the instruction conveyed to me, I have not considered it proper to make any communication to the Russian authorities, though I consider that a suitable communication should be made, more especially as the delay warrants suspicion that Messrs. Vucina have followed a not uncommon course in this country, of showing their passports to the authorities without having them indorsed; and hereafter, if it should prove necessary, they might give a petition to the police, stating that they have mislaid their national passports, upon which the police, or any other Department where they may have been exhibited, and perhaps also copied, would, more particularly where wealthy and influential persons are concerned, grant them a certificate that they have been in possession of British passports, and they would thus have no difficulty at any time to obtain tickets of residence as British subjects.

While I have the honour of submitting this view of the question to your Lordship, I shall abstain from any further step, unless sanctioned by Her Majesty's Foreign Office, beyond that of cancelling the record in the book of this office of the issue of these passports and filing them amongst its archives with appropriate remark.

Other questionable passports, or passports to which parties are not entitled, have, I fear, been issued by Mr. Grenville-Murray; in one case, as far as has come under my notice, without a number, and without even recording either the issue or subsequent visa attached to it. But, while duty dictates that I should not let the matter pass unnoticed in this despatch, as a temporary occupant of the office I have now the honour to direct, I have not felt authorized, in the absence of any call upon me for protection, to move in a question so delicate, further than noting such particulars as may be useful to me in the discharge of my own official duties at any future period; preferring, under present circumstances, to make no particular mention of either facts or parties unless specially instructed to examine fully into the subject, which service (without in any wishing to claim merit for myself) no one could perform, unless one who, like myself, has had an opportunity of observing from no great distance, over a space of many years, the errors of this Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Messrs. Alexander and John Vucina.

Gentlemen,

Odessa, March 16, 1867.

CONFORMABLY to an instruction received this day from Her Majesty's Foreign Office, I beg to request you to return to this office the passports issued to you, through error, on the 1st of November last, Lord Stanley finding that you are not entitled to be considered as British subjects.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Payment of Consul Zohrab's Expenses in connection with the
Alleged Murder of Captain Middleton at Odessa : 1865-67.

No. 70.

Earl Russell to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 13, 1865.

I HAVE to state to you that I received with great surprise the announcement that you had thought fit to send Mr. Zohrab, Her Majesty's Consul at Berdiansk, to England as the bearer of your despatch of the 21st ultimo, in which is inclosed a Report from that gentleman respecting the recent deaths, under suspicious circumstances, of certain British subjects at Odessa,* and my surprise was not lessened when I learnt your reasons for so doing.

The long continued detention of Mr. Zohrab at Odessa, as a witness in the case of Captain Middleton's alleged murder, has already, as you are well aware, caused great inconvenience, and I am at a loss to understand why you should have created further delay and inconvenience, and incurred additional expenditure by your present proceedings.

I can accept as valid none of the reasons which you give. On the contrary, they are totally insufficient to exculpate you from the blame which attaches to your conduct in this matter.

In the first place, the preparation of such a Report as you called upon Mr. Zohrab to make, was strictly your duty, and not Mr. Zohrab's; and I must express to you my displeasure at your neglect in this instance to perform your proper duty, and at your employing the services of Mr. Zohrab and thus detaining him from his post.

In the next place, the Report prepared by Mr. Zohrab, and your despatch sending it, contain, in reality, nothing on which Her Majesty's Government could found a representation to the Russian Government respecting the recent occurrences at Odessa, nor anything of such importance as to warrant the employment of extraordinary precautions in transmitting them to this country.

But, assuming the contrary, you are perfectly well aware, and so is Mr. Zohrab, that there are safe opportunities at Odessa, of almost daily occurrence, of sending your despatches to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople, and so on to this office; and you should have sent the despatch in question, and its inclosure, by this channel, and then, in obedience with your instructions, have directed Mr. Zohrab to proceed without further loss of time to his post at Berdiansk, to which I have now ordered him to go.

As your proceedings in sending Mr. Zohrab to England were perfectly unauthorized and cannot be sanctioned, the expenditure incurred on this account must be borne by yourself and not by the public, and it will be accordingly charged against your salary.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **RUSSELL.**

No. 71.

Minute on Consul-General Murray's despatch October 23, 1865, respecting the Murder of Captain Middleton, of the British vessel "Lily of the Valley," in September last, at Odessa.

THE circumstances connected with this murder have been under investigation by the police authorities at Odessa upwards of a year, but the guilty party has not yet been

* The previous correspondence on this subject is very voluminous, and it has not been thought necessary to print it.

discovered. The part taken by Mr. Zohrab, Her Majesty's Consul at Berdiansk, in this matter, and his consequent detention at Odessa, is as follows:—

Mr. Zohrab happened to be at Odessa, waiting for the steamer to take him to his post, when the crime in question was committed, and he volunteered to make inquiries and assist in the investigation. The evidence collected by him was considered so valuable by the police authorities, that Consul-General Murray requested, by telegraph, September 20, 1864, that he might be authorized to detain Mr. Zohrab at Odessa, as a witness in the case. This was granted; but the investigation was prolonged so indefinitely, and the expenses of Mr. Zohrab (which have been paid by Her Majesty's Government, in the expectation that they will be repaid by the Russian Government), so great, that Mr. Consul-General Murray was repeatedly ordered not to detain Mr. Zohrab any longer at Odessa. Instead of this, Mr. Zohrab was detained up to the 21st August last, and then sent to England by Mr. Grenville-Murray with a Report which Mr. Zohrab had drawn up on this and other cases of murder at Odessa. Lord Russell commented severely on this proceeding in a despatch of which the draft is annexed, and Consul Zohrab was ordered at once to leave for his post at Berdiansk, which he accordingly did.

Foreign Office, November 4, 1865.

No. 72.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 31, 1866.

THE Earl of Clarendon has fully considered the circumstances under which Earl Russell decided that the expense incurred by Mr. Zohrab on a journey to England under your orders should be charged against your salary, such expenses not being chargeable to the public, inasmuch as they were incurred without necessity and without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State, though Mr. Zohrab, having no alternative but to obey your orders, could not himself be required to defray them.

I am now to state to you that Lord Clarendon regrets that he sees no sufficient grounds for departing from Lord Russell's decision, and his Lordship has accordingly directed that the amount of those expenses, namely, 91*l.* 6*s.*, shall be deducted from the salary payable to you at the expiration of the present quarter, and shall be placed to the account of Mr. Zohrab.

No. 73.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 25, 1866.

THE Earl of Clarendon has had under his consideration your despatch requesting his Lordship to reconsider the decision communicated to you in Mr. Hammond's despatch of the 31st ultimo, to the effect that the sum of 91*l.* 6*s.*, being the amount expended on account of Mr. Zohrab's journey to England should be deducted from your salary; and his Lordship now desires me to inform you that he must adhere to that decision, but that, considering the reasons stated in your "private" letter to his Lordship of the 10th instant, he is willing to allow this deduction to be effected by quarterly instalments of 10*l.*

No. 74.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 22, 1866.

AS there is but little hope that the supposed murderer of Captain Middleton will be discovered, or that any further evidence will be procured throwing light upon that mysterious occurrence, the time seems now to have arrived when the money advanced by

Her Majesty's Government for the expenses incurred by Mr. Zohrab, by his long-continued detention at Odessa in connection with this affair, should be repaid by the Russian authorities.

In the despatch of Baron Velho, the Governor of Odessa, of which a translation was inclosed in your despatch of the 27th of January, 1865,* the Imperial Russian Government recognized their liability to reimburse those expenses, which amount to the sum of 1,182*l.* 7*s.*, and I am accordingly to instruct you to address an official note to the Governor of Odessa, claiming, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, repayment thereof.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 75.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 22, 1867.

WITH reference to your expenditure in the case of the Middleton murder, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you a copy of a letter addressed by the Russian Government to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, accompanied by a report from the Governor of New Russia upon the claim advanced by Her Majesty's Government to be repaid the expenditure in question. This demand was made upon your report that you had received the assurance of the Russian authorities at Odessa that all expenses incurred in connection with the attendance of witnesses, &c., would be paid by the Russian Government; and it was, indeed, on the faith of your report, and upon that only, that Mr. Zohrab was allowed to prolong his stay at Odessa.

It appears from the Russian statement that you have misinformed Her Majesty's Government on this point, and that there is no probability of recovering the expenditure, amounting to 1,193*l.* 7*s.*

You will feel that the responsibility thus incurred by you in having, however unintentionally, misled Her Majesty's Government is of a serious character; but before considering what course to take in the matter, Lord Stanley wishes to give you an opportunity of making any explanation that you may have to offer on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 76.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

London, February 23, 1867.

WITH respect to Mr. Murray's despatch of yesterday's date regarding Mr. Consul Zohrab's expenses as witness in the numerous cases of murders of British merchant seamen at Odessa, I have the honour distinctly to deny having misled Her Majesty's Government in any way whatever, and I cannot suffer such an imputation to remain an hour uncontradicted.

I have the honour, therefore, to refer your Lordship to my despatches on the subject, which were written under a full sense of my duties and responsibilities; and I am ready to confirm and explain my reports in any and every particular whenever your Lordship may honour me with an interview.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 77.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 27, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that he has received your letter of the 23rd instant, acknowledging the receipt of my letter of the 22nd instant.

* See Inclosure in No. 77.

That letter, which related to the expenditure in the case of the Middleton murder, contained the following passage :—

“This demand was made upon your report that you had received the assurance of the Russian authorities at Odessa that all expenses incurred in connexion with the attendance of witnesses, &c., were to be paid by the Russian Government; and it was indeed on the faith of your Report, and upon that only, that Mr. Zohrab was allowed to prolong his stay at Odessa. It appears from the Russian statement that you have misinformed Her Majesty’s Government on this point, and that there is no probability of recovering the expenditure, amounting to 1,193*l.* 7*s.* You will feel that the responsibility thus incurred by you in having, however unintentionally, misled Her Majesty’s Government, is of a serious character.”

In your reply to the above you say ;—

“I have the honour distinctly to deny having misled Her Majesty’s Government in any way whatever; and I cannot suffer such an imputation to remain an hour uncontradicted.”

I am now to inquire how you reconcile that denial with the accompanying extracts from despatches received from you at this office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Inclosure in No. 77.

Extracts of Despatches from Mr. Grenville-Murray upon the subject of Consul Zohrab’s Expenses.

WITNESSES in criminal cases are paid in Russia from any property which may be possessed by the guilty persons. . . . In no case are they ever paid by the Government.

November 18,
1864.

(On this he was told not to keep Mr. Zohrab longer at Odessa at the public expense.)

His Excellency (the Governor-General) at once frankly acknowledged the justice of the principle that it was equitable Mr. Zohrab’s expenses, while detained here at the request of the Russian authorities, should be paid by the Russian Government. . . . He was unable to decide this question on his own authority, but the case was altogether so exceptional that he felt confident, since Mr. Zohrab must be detained to effect the ends of justice, that his expenses would be paid by the Imperial Government. He, therefore, would by this day’s post bring the question before the Minister of the Interior, and urge its speedy settlement.

December 13,
1864.

(Mr. Murray did detain Mr. at Odessa.)

On condition of refunding the amount, if the same should be paid by the Russian Government, as his Excellency the Governor of Odessa has induced me to believe will probably be the case.

December 13,
1864.

(Asking leave to draw for Mr. Zohrab’s expenses.)

In that despatch the Russian Government has recognized the principle that as Mr. Zohrab was detained here at the request of the Russian authorities and in order to facilitate an inquiry in a Russian Court of Law, it is equitable that his expenses as witness should be reimbursed to him by the Court. The Russian Code quoted in the Baron’s despatch, has evidently provided for such cases. . . . The Russian law . . . acknowledges the responsibility of the Government to pay the expenses of witnesses in criminal cases when the culprit either has no estate or the crime cannot be proved.

January 27, 1865.
(Incloses despatch from the Governor of Odessa.)

I should not have failed to argue this question to the best of my ability, had there been any further misunderstanding, but it is satisfactory to be able to state that no arguments have been required to enforce the obvious truth contained in your Lordship’s despatch.

The despatch from the Governor, inclosed in this despatch, states :—

“Mr. Zohrab is to recover his expenses according to the regulations laid down in §§ 26, 30, 31, and 228, of the 15th Vol., 2nd Book of the Criminal Code.

“I inclose a copy of the paragraphs referred to.”

(The regulation which affects this case is § 31.)

“In cases where guilt is not proved, and no claims can be enforced against the accused, the Court will inform the Imperial Government of the fact, and the expenses will then be carried to the public account according to the usual formalities.”

October 6, 1865.

His Excellency (the Governor) did not for a moment dispute the liability of the Russian Government to pay Mr. Zohrab's expenses, and stated that he would let me know the sum which the law allowed for witnesses as soon as possible.

No. 78.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

London, February 28, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Murray's despatch of yesterday's date, and, in reply, to request that I may be informed in what particular the denial contained in my letter of the 23rd instant is irreconcilable with the extracts quoted from my despatches having myself failed, after attentive consideration, to discover the discrepancy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Note.—It having been decided to make an investigation on the spot into Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings, no further Correspondence was held with Mr. Grenville-Murray upon this subject.

Restoration of a Box of important Documents deposited in the
Consulate-General at Odessa by Mr. Cutbill, and claimed
by Mr. Charlton, Agent to Messrs. Furness and Co.: 1867.

No. 79.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 28.)

My Lord, Odessa, February 19, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of a correspondence, viz.:—

1. A letter addressed to me by Mr. William Charlton, Agent and Director of Messrs. George Furness and Co., of Odessa, dated January 16, 1867.
2. A letter addressed to Mr. Perkins by me, dated January 16, 1867.
3. A letter addressed to me by Mr. Perkins, dated January 17, 1867.
4. A letter addressed to Mr. Charlton by me, dated January 18, 1867.
5. A letter addressed to me by Mr. Charlton, dated January $\frac{9}{21}$, 1867, with certified copy of its inclosure.
6. A despatch or letter addressed by me to Mr. Charlton, dated January 24, 1867.
7. Explanatory note and a telegram addressed by me to Mr. Grenville-Murray, on January $\frac{12}{24}$, 1867.
8. A letter addressed to me by Mr. Charlton, dated January $\frac{12}{24}$, 1867.
9. A letter addressed to me by Mr. Charlton, dated January 25
February 6, 1867.
10. A despatch addressed by me to Mr. Charlton, dated February 19, 1867.

All regarding a box of important documents claimed by Mr. William Charlton from this Consulate-General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir, Odessa, January $\frac{4}{16}$, 1867.

COPIES of contracts and of many important documents connected with Furness and Co.'s contract with the Paving Committee of Odessa, were deposited at the British Consulate-General in 1862, 1863, and 1864, and a black japanned tin box marked G. F. and Co., was specially furnished by me to Mr. Murray for their care and safe keeping. I suppose that box has fallen into your care, and I beg to be allowed, under your supervision, to take a list of the contents at your convenience.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WM. CHARLTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Perkins.

Sir, Odessa, January 16, 1867.
I HAVE the honour to inclose a letter received by me this day from Mr. William Charlton, regarding a deposit of important documents connected with the Paving Committee of Odessa.

I need hardly state that I received no such deposit from you when you made over the archives of this Consulate-General to me, and beg to request you to inform me whether any such box of documents as that alluded to by Mr. Charlton, was made over to you by Mr. Consul-General Murray on his handing you the archives, or whether you received any communication or memorandum from Mr. Murray on his departure as to its deposit elsewhere.

I beg you to be good enough to return to me Mr. Charlton's original letter, and have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 79.

Mr. Perkins to Acting Consul-General Stevens:

Sir,

Odessa, January 17, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated yesterday, inclosing a letter received by you from Mr. William Charlton, regarding a deposit of important documents connected with the Paving Committee of Odessa, and requesting me to inform you whether any such box of documents as that alluded to by Mr. Charlton was made over to me by Mr. Consul-General Murray on his handing me the archives, or whether I received any communication or memorandum from Mr. Murray on his departure as to its deposit elsewhere.

I have the honour to state, in reply, that I have delivered over to you everything which was made over to me by Mr. Consul-General Murray on his handing me the archives, and that I received no communication or memorandum from him on his departure of any kind.

Inclosed herewith, I beg to return to you Mr. Charlton's original letter as requested by you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 79.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Charlton.

Sir,

Odessa, January 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch of $\frac{4}{16}$ th January, inquiring about a deposit in this Consulate-General of important documents connected with Messrs. Furness and Company's contract, and beg to inform you that no such deposit was received by me from my predecessor, Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins, to whom I referred your letter, receiving this day his reply which I transmit to you in original, begging you will return it to me after perusal.

I regret that I have been unable to find any of Mr. Consul-General Murray's servants from whom I might have elicited information as to its deposit elsewhere. Mr. Perkins knows nothing as to the whereabouts of Mr. Peach, the coachman, while Mr. Murray's personal servant went to England with his master.

Under the circumstances I can only suggest a reference to Mr. Murray; but I feel it incumbent on me to observe that I can discover no deposit note regarding these documents among the archives handed to me; and that it will be necessary for you to present Mr. Murray's official receipt, or other evidence which you may possess, before I can in any way make official reference to that gentleman on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 5 in No. 79.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, January $\frac{9}{11}$, 1867.

I HAVE read, and herewith return to you, the letter of Mr. Perkins of the 17th instant. I am surprised beyond measure to hear that you can learn nothing as to the

box and its contents that my letter of the 16th instant referred to. I never took receipts from Mr. Murray for the documents, but the inclosed note which I received from him will be quite sufficient to show that he had copies of our contracts.

The Mr. Gonsiorowsky, to whose contract Mr. Murray's note refers, has been at law with us from 1863 to 1866, in reference to that very contract. A Russian, named Pervaschoff, of Wosnesensk, took legal proceedings against us in 1863, and which have only been terminated recently, first, by his imprisonment for fraud (not upon us), and then by his death. We have several times been on the verge of law with another sub-contractor, Mr. Autonne, of this city, and we shall be fortunate if his contract be finally worked out without getting involved in law. Mr. Murray has copies of those several contracts, and of many papers connected with them, as our clerk can testify, who made copies and took them to him. I send that clerk (Mr. Desavisse) to you with this letter, and I remain, &c.

(Signed)

WM. CHARLTON,
For G. Furness and Co.

Inclosure 6 in No. 79.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Charlton.

Dear Sir,

COULD you call on me at 8 or half-past 8 this evening, and bring with you your office copy of the contract with M. Gonsiorowsky? Mine is locked up, and I want a copy at once.

Yours, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 7 in No. 79.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Charlton.

Sir,

Odessa, January 24, 1867.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, and to state in reply that, my inquiries as regards your deposit having proved unsuccessful, I have decided on sending a telegram to Mr. Grenville-Murray on the subject.

I return to you, herewith, Mr. Murray's original letter sent to me in support of your claim, and have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 8 in No. 79.

Copy of a private telegram addressed by Mr. Stevens to Mr. Grenville-Murray on the 12th/₄ January, 1867, confirmed by private letter of same date addressed to Mr. Murray, 22, Lower Brook Street, London, in which letter Mr. Stevens requested Mr. Murray to telegraph out his answer. Posted 27th January, by Russian post.

TO Grenville-Murray, care of Foreign Office, London.

Charlton claims box important documents deposited in this Consulate-General. Say quickly where to find them. Perkins knows nothing.

(Signed)

STEVENS, *Acting Consul-General.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 79.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, January 12th/₄, 1867.

IT was a constant recommendation on the part of Mr. Murray that any British subject making a contract at Odessa should register and deposit a copy of it with him, to make it good in law. Accordingly, copies of all our contracts and sub-contracts were handed to him. The one with M. Gonsiorowski (to which Mr. Murray's note to me in

August 1863 refers) became the subject of a long and very determined law suit, commencing in July 1863 and ending in 1866, when M. Gonsiorowsky formally cancelled and gave up his original contract to me. I think it is very necessary that the copy of that contract deposited by me with Mr. Murray, as well as the copy similarly deposited with him by M. Gonsiorowsky, should bear a copy of the cancellation of the original contract, and then remain in the Consulate during the time of the duration of our contract works here. But beyond that consideration, I am anxious to know what has become of the box and its contents, which I hope will be a sufficient excuse for giving you so much trouble in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WM. CHARLTON,
For G. Furness and Co.

Inclosure 10 in No. 79.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, ^{January 25}_{February 6}, 1867.

I THINK it is very strange that no information can be obtained in any quarter respecting the box and its contents that are in question between us, and I beg that you will take a convenient, but an early, opportunity of having the question put to Mr. Murray, as to where those copies of contracts and other documents connected with them now are.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WM. CHARLTON.

Inclosure 11 in No. 79.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Charlton.

Sir,

Odessa, February 19, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter dated ^{25th January}_{6th February} instant, I beg to inform you that sufficient time having elapsed for Mr. Grenville-Murray to have answered my communications of $\frac{1}{2}$ ²₄th January, and no reply having reached me, I have referred the matter of the missing deposit of documents of the Paving Company to Her Majesty's Foreign Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 80.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you in original a despatch and its inclosures from the Acting Consul-General at Odessa, respecting a box containing important papers which is stated to have been left in your care by Mr. William Charlton, agent to Messrs. Furness and Co., of Odessa, and which cannot be found.

I am to call upon you for an explanation as to what has become of this box, and I am to inquire whether, on the registration of the papers it contained, you levied the proper fees, and accounted for them to Her Majesty's Government.

I am to request that you will return Mr. Stevens' despatch with your reply to this letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1867.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th ultimo,* respecting a missing box containing important papers, which is stated to have been confided to the care of Mr. Grenville-Murray by Mr. William Charlton, agent to Messrs. Furness and Co., of Odessa, I am directed by Lord Stanley to acquaint you that he has called upon Mr. Murray for an explanation as to what has become of the box in question.

I am further to instruct you to report whether there is any record in the archives of your Consulate of the proper fees having been levied by Mr. Murray on the registration of the papers contained in the box.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 4.)

My Lord,

London, March 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Murray's despatch of the 2nd instant, with inclosures, from Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, respecting a box alleged to be claimed by Mr. Charlton; and to state that I will immediately make the necessary inquiries, and communicate the result to your Lordship.

Undoubtedly, the proper fees have been levied on all papers registered at Odessa, and duly accounted for to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

London, March 19, 1867.

IN returning the inclosed I have the honour to state that they refer to papers of which I took charge at the request of the late Mr. Cutbill, Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, and which, having no reference whatever to Her Majesty's Consulate-General, I have felt bound to deliver to that gentleman's representative.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. James Murray.—(Received March 19.)

Brook Street, March 19, 1867.

MR. GRENVILLE-MURRAY presents his compliments to Mr. James Murray and hastens to return the despatch from Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, inclosed in the letter from the Foreign Office of the 2nd instant.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 22, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to state that his Lordship regrets that he cannot consider as sufficient or satisfactory the explanation which you have given in regard to papers deposited in Her

Majesty's Consulate by Mr. Charlton ; and I am to require from you categorical answers to the questions put in the accompanying paper, which you will return to Lord Stanley with your replies written opposite to each question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Questions to be answered by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

1. DID Mr. Charlton deliver to you, during 1862, 1863, and 1864, certain papers relating to a contract made by Messrs. Geo. Furness and Co. with the Paving Committee of Odessa ?
2. Did you not know that Mr. Charlton was the agent of Messrs. Geo. Furness and Co. ?
3. Were you not aware that the papers he deposited with you related to contracts of which Mr. Charlton had the management ?
4. Did Mr. Charlton give you a box wherein to keep those papers ?
5. What interest had Mr. Cutbill, Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, in the papers in question ?
6. What proof had you of that interest ?
7. What authority had you to consider Mr. Cutbill as the rightful owner of the papers ?
8. Who is Mr. Cutbill's representative, and where does he reside ?
9. On what date did you make over the papers to such representative ?
10. Did he call upon you to deliver them up ?
11. Upon what authority did you consider yourself justified in doing so ?
12. Why did you not inform Mr. Charlton ?
13. Did you publicly recommend that British subjects entering into contracts at Odessa should register and deposit copies of such contracts at the Consulate ?
14. Did you duly register all the papers deposited by Mr. Charlton ?
15. Did you levy and account to Her Majesty's Government for the fees due on such registration ?
16. What was your object in writing to Mr. Charlton, and in desiring him to take to the Consulate for your inspection his "office copy of the contract with M. Gonsiorowsky," yours being locked up ?
17. Why did you not answer the questions put to you in my letter of the 16th instant ?

No. 86.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

London, March 26, 1867.

BEFORE answering the inclosed questions, I have the honour to explain that the late Mr. Cutbill, who was Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, was an old friend of my family. In the latter part of the year 1861, he informed Mrs. Grenville-Murray that he had given some friends of his, who were negotiating a contract at Odessa, a letter of introduction to me. Mr. Cutbill stated that he was himself interested in the contract, and that Mr. Furness was his friend. Afterwards Mr. Cutbill requested Mrs. Grenville-Murray to ask me to take charge for him of any papers which might be brought to me for him, which she did. All the papers which Mr. Charlton sent to me I received and kept for Mr. Cutbill as my personal friend. Mr. Charlton one day sent me an empty box, into which I placed not only the papers received from Mr. Charlton, but also private letters and papers, and some clothes of my own. This box I kept locked ; and on the eve of my return to England, in December last, I caused the box with its contents to be forwarded to me in England by sea. Some time after its arrival I placed the box and papers in the hands of Mr. Alfred Cutbill, a son, and one of the executors of the late Mr. Cutbill.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Questions to be answered by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Q. 1. Did Mr. Charlton deliver to you, during 1862, 1863, and 1864, certain papers relating to a contract made by Messrs. George Furness and Co. with the Paving Committee of Odessa?

Q. 2. Did you not know that Mr. Charlton was the agent of Messrs. George Furness and Co.?

Q. 3. Were you not aware that the papers he deposited with you related to contracts of which Mr. Charlton had the management?

Q. 4. Did Mr. Charlton give you a box wherein to keep those papers?

Q. 5. What interest had Mr. Cutbill, Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, in the papers in question?

Q. 6. What proof had you of that interest?

Q. 7. What authority had you to consider Mr. Cutbill as the rightful owner of the papers?

Q. 8. Who is Mr. Cutbill's representative, and where does he reside?

Q. 9. On what date did you make over the papers to such representative?

Q. 10. Did he call upon you to deliver them up?

Q. 11. Upon what authority did you consider yourself justified in doing so?

Q. 12. Why did you not inform Mr. Charlton?

Q. 13. Did you publicly recommend that British subjects entering into contracts at Odessa should register and deposit copies of such contracts at the Consulate?

A. 1. I cannot now say whether in the years 1862, 1863, and 1864, Mr. Charlton delivered to me certain papers. But whatever papers he sent to me at any time were given me as the private and personal friend of the late Mr. Cutbill. They were by no means deposited with me for safe custody on behalf of Messrs. Furness and Co.

A. 2. I believe I did know that Mr. Charlton was an agent of Messrs. Furness and Co. They had several agents.

A. 3. I believe that the papers related to contracts in which Mr. Charlton had some management. But I received no papers from Mr. Charlton except papers for Mr. Cutbill.

A. 4. Mr. Charlton gave me an empty box, which was one of many he had sent out from England, as such things cannot be bought at Odessa; and in this box I placed, as I have stated in my explanation, not only the papers received from Mr. Charlton for Mr. Cutbill, but also private letters and papers, and some clothes of my own.

A. 5. Mr. Cutbill informed my wife that he had an interest in these papers.

A. 6. The statement made by Mr. Cutbill to my wife.

A. 7. Because they were received by me in compliance with the request conveyed to me from Mr. Cutbill by Mrs. Grenville-Murray.

A. 8. His son, Mr. Alfred Cutbill, Barrister, No. 7, King's Bench Walk, Temple.

A. 9. On the 18th instant; and I inclose a letter subsequently received from Mr. Alfred Cutbill.

A. 10. No; I considered it my duty to place them in his hands.

A. 11. I considered that having received the papers for my deceased friend, I was bound to deliver them to his executor.

A. 12. I did not consider Mr. Charlton was entitled to have them; nor did he, during the years I have held them, ever ask for one of them.

A. 13. It has been my practice to recommend British subjects to register contracts at the Consulate. My advice referred especially to contracts made by working engineers and uneducated persons—contracts prepared in the Russian language, into which they enter often without understanding the obligations they incur, or being able to prove the advantages promised to them, unless they can refer to authentic copies of their agreements. It is a great advantage to such persons that their contracts should be properly translated, explained to them, and registered, that they may at any time appeal

Q. 14. Did you duly register all the papers deposited by Mr. Charlton?

Q. 15. Did you levy, and account to Her Majesty's Government for, the fees due on such registration?

Q. 16. What was your object in writing to Mr. Charlton, and in desiring him to take to the Consulate, for your inspection, his "office copy of the contract with Mr. Gągorowski," yours being locked up?

Q. 17. Why did you not answer the questions put to you in my letter of the 16th instant?

to Her Majesty's Consulate-General for advice and protection.

A. 14. The papers in question were never registered or intended to be registered.

A. 15. The papers not being registered, no fee was levied or accounted for.

A. 16. I do not remember. Registered papers were never locked up or inaccessible to me. These papers were locked up because they were private papers of Mr. Cutbill. I beg reference to my note.

A. 17. I resume the letter here referred to is Mr. Murray's despatch of the 2nd instant, not of the 16th; and I have the honour to apologize for not having answered these questions sooner; but I was not in a position to do so till yesterday.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Mr. Cutbill to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

My dear Sir,

7, King's Bench Walk, March 25, 1867.

THE papers which were deposited with you at Odessa, and were kindly taken charge of by you at the request of my late father, were, more than a week ago, handed over to Mr. Furness' Chief Clerk by me, because I did not consider that my father's executors had any longer sufficient reasons for detaining them, Mr. F.'s affairs having been pretty well arranged with the executors recently and since his late failure.

I am very sorry that Mr. Charlton, Mr. F.'s agent at Odessa, should have put you to so much trouble; but I have no doubt that he is labouring under some misconception, and I know that he was ignorant of the relations between Mr. F. and my late father with reference to such private papers as were lately under your charge.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED CUTBILL.

No. 87.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 12.)

My Lord,

Odessa, March 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 2nd instant,* informing me, with reference to my despatch of the 19th February, that your Lordship has called upon Mr. Murray for an explanation as to what has become of the box of important papers confided to his care by Mr. Charlton, and instructing me to report whether there is any record in the archives of the Consulate of the proper fees having been levied by Mr. Murray on the registration of the papers contained in the box.

On receipt of your Lordship's despatch, I wrote and informed Mr. Charlton of your Lordship's decision, and on examination of the Fee Book it does not appear that any fees were credited Government either for the deposit of these papers nor for their registration, nor for similar documents which I know to have been similarly deposited or registered by a sub-contractor of Mr. Furness', whose papers are also not among the archives, though the originals he holds are endorsed accordingly by Mr. Murray, a subject which the sub-contractor is likely to bring forward every day, should he hear that Mr. Charlton's papers are not in existence.

I should mention that I hold this information from Mr. Charlton, and not from the sub-contractor, whom I have never met.

I also deem it proper to state, for your Lordship's information, that, from certain remarks made to me by a person of my acquaintance, subsequent to my reference to your Lordship, I have reason to believe that Mr. Charlton's box was sent to England by

Mr. Murray; which belief I deemed it a duty to communicate to Mr. Charlton, who expressed his astonishment at, and disbelief of, any such probability, though, I fear, it is but too true; the only doubt, as far as I can judge, being, whether the box was sent before Mr. Murray's departure, or after, in charge of Mrs. Tagliaferro.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 88.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Odessa, April 17, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 19th February and 26th March last,* I have the honour to report for your Lordship's further information, that, in a letter received yesterday evening from Mr. William Charlton, agent for Messrs. G. Furness and Co. in this town, that gentleman announced to me the delivery to Mr. Furness, in London, of the box of documents claimed by Mr. Charlton, together with two papers contained in the box which do not appear to belong to Mr. Furness, as your Lordship will observe by the inclosed original letter from Mr. Charlton, copy of my reply, and Mr. Charlton's original rejoinder.

Mr. Charlton called upon me immediately after sending in his last letter, and on my questioning him he explained that the documents delivered to Mr. Furness No. 107, bearing no official stamp, signature, or remark;† that he paid no fees on their deposit, that many of the papers are of trivial value, the important ones being the contracts and the documents connected with them, which also are rendered unimportant by their not having been properly recorded at that time, for future reference, and in case of accident to the originals, and having been given up through a claim made for them by Mr. Furness of London, direct to Mr. Grenville-Murray, Mr. Charlton expresses himself satisfied with the knowledge that the documents are safe in the hands of his chief in London.

I deem it necessary to state that I informed Mr. Charlton that it would have been more regular had these documents been given up to Mr. Furness through Her Majesty's Foreign Office, which then might have satisfied itself that no other documents unconnected with Mr. Furness' affairs, beyond the two mentioned by him, were mixed up with them; which course, it is to be regretted, was not followed, for other papers, besides these having reference to Mr. Furness' affairs, appear to be missing, and only to-day I have been engaged for seven hours searching among the archives for a copy of an Act of Partnership presented to me by an English gentleman, which has not so far turned up, though the original, a document of seven sides of foolscap, bears the following note:—

"Government fee 2s. No. 113.

"I hereby certify that the above document was this day signed in my presence, and a copy thereof duly deposited in the archives of Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General, Odessa, May 29th, 1865.

"(L.S.)

(Signed)

"E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
"Consul-General."

While other claims, still more serious, are spoken of; and though I have refused to listen to them until tangible proof is produced, I cannot state that they will not sooner or later be forthcoming, more especially if the future incumbent of this office should prove to be a person unacquainted with its history, and ignorant of the many minor circumstances which have enabled me to shield it from attack in instances where, though it is at serious fault, a fair argument exists for smothering complaints of persons who themselves are not entirely blameless.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 88.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, April 16, 1867.

IT is necessary that I should inform you, in reference to the box of documents about which we have had some correspondence, that it has been given up to Mr. Furness in

* Nos. 79 and 87.

† *Sic in orig.*

London. I think it would be wrong in me to omit informing you, as concerning the Consulate-General here, that there are two papers in that box, in London (according to the list of its contents forwarded to me here), about which I know nothing, as not in any way referring to our affairs. One is "Letter from Mrs. E. H. Watson, inclosing a letter for her husband, dated January 5th, 1864;" and the other, "An advertisement in Russian and French, relating to vessels navigating the Danube, dated May 17th" (I think, more probably, Turkish and French). If you desire it, I will apply for those two papers being sent here.

I beg to thank you for the trouble that you have been put to in this matter, and I remain, &c.

(Signed) WM. CHARLTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 88.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Charlton.

Sir,

Odessa, April 17, 1867.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, the contents of which I shall refer to Her Majesty's Foreign Office by next post.

As you seem to have received a full list of the documents which have been delivered to Mr. Furness, I will feel obliged by your letting me know, at your earliest convenience, how many documents have been made over by Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Furness, and whether you paid any fees on them in handing them to this office?

I will also feel thankful by your informing me if the papers deposited by Mr. Othon, Mr. Furness' sub-contractor, which you mentioned as having been deposited by that gentleman, are included among the documents delivered to Mr. Furness, as, in that case, it will be necessary to send them back to this office together with the documents you allude to in your letter and any other document which does not belong to Mr. Furness; in fact, all the documents handed to Mr. Furness, according to my opinion, should be returned to this Consulate-General, as they form part of its archives; but I prefer, before laying claim to them, making reference to Her Majesty's Foreign Office, leaving the decision to its superior judgment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 88.

Mr. Charlton to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, April $\frac{5}{17}$, 1867.

I WAS about answering the different questions in your note of to-day's date, in the order in which they occur, when it struck my mind that I cannot assume that everything found in the box in question, given up in London, and not under seal, must belong to the archives of your Consulate-General. That is so very broad a principle that, with all deference and respect to you and to your office, I must differ with. The two papers to which I have specially referred may never have been in Odessa at all; but the probability is, that they do so belong to you: accordingly, I will apply for their transmission here from London. The copy of Mr. Antonne's contract does not appear in the list of the papers found in the box. I should imagine that registration under a certificate could alone have made these documents of any value to us, and that in the absence of that form they are perfectly worthless, as not bearing any marks of identity; and that it would be a waste of time and of expense to send them here. They are only copies, not original papers.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) WM. CHARLTON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 88.

Memorandum by Acting Consul-General Stevens.

TO permit Mr. Under-Secretary Murray to form his judgment relative to the fees on the documents delivered to Mr. Furness, Mr. Stevens thinks it may be as well to state that through a confidential communication made to him long ago, Mr. Stevens is aware that Mr. Grenville-Murray had, up to 1865, a direct account with the Paving Company in London, and received considerable sums from it; thus, though Mr. Charlton paid no fees, it is by no means conclusive that no fees were charged, and the only means of ascertaining was by inspection of the documents whereby it might have been seen if any official remark has ever been attached to them. With the great desire of the Paving Company to hush up matters regarding the sums paid to Mr. Murray for his services, ostensibly not to mix up Mrs. Murray, but in all probability, in consequence of the dispute between the Company and a Mr. Lee, Mr. Stevens feels persuaded that the truth will never be now arrived at, though an inspection of the papers, even now, might yet lead to a solution.

Mr. Stevens ought to state that the documents were delivered to Mr. Furness by a Mr. Cutbill, and were sent in the name of Mrs., not Mr., Murray.

In the case of the contract or act of partnership referred to in Mr. Stevens' despatch of this date,* Mr. Lawton, the English gentleman referred to, told Mr. Stevens that the fees charged amounted to 15 silver roubles, but they were paid by the other partner (Mr. Baxter of Nicolaieff), and as Mr. Baxter has never forgotten the services rendered to him by Mr. Grenville-Murray in his discussion with Mr. Cortazzi, the truth in this instance will probably also prove difficult to produce, though Mr. Lawton is a gentleman in every sense of the word. The remark "Government" fee proves clearly that a private fee was also exacted.

Odessa, April 17, 1867.

[The subsequent Correspondence on this case is to be found in the General Correspondence commencing at page 141.]

Certificates by Mr. Grenville-Murray, purporting to empower Mrs. Tagliaferro, Widow of a Maltese, to sell Landed Property belonging to her Children at Berdiansk, they being Minors: 1867.

No. 89.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Odessa, February 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, in original, a letter addressed to the Consulate-General by Messrs. Fratelli Tubino de Giacomo, merchants of Berdiansk, referring to a certificate granted by this office, empowering a certain Mrs. Margherita Tagliaferro, widow of Simon Tagliaferro, a native of Malta, formerly a wealthy merchant of this town, to sell certain landed property belonging to her children, minors, situate in the town of Berdiansk, which certificate not having been delivered in order, Messrs. Tubino state they sent back for rectification; and after requesting explanation as to its delay, they remind this office that they have incurred expenses on the premises purchased by them of Mrs. Tagliaferro.

On receipt of Messrs. Tubino's letter, I searched through the archives of this Consulate-General, and finding nothing on record concerning Mrs. Tagliaferro, whom I knew to be an inmate of Mr. Grenville-Murray's house, the possibility that Messrs. Tubino are the victims of imposition on her part suggested itself; and I therefore deemed it a duty to investigate the matter before replying to their letter, commencing my inquiry by writing a despatch to Mr. Perkins, seeking information, as your Lordship will more fully observe by the copy of my letter, which, and Mr. Perkins' reply in original, I have the honour to transmit inclosed.

Failing to elicit any particulars from Mr. Perkins, I inquired verbally of Mrs. Tagliaferro's brother, Mr. de Ribas and others, and was assured that a document in Russian, purporting to be an official certificate, based on British law, issued under seal and signature of office, empowering Mrs. Tagliaferro to sell the property of her children at Berdiansk, had been granted last autumn by Mr. Grenville-Murray; but that gentleman, in lieu of affixing the seal of this office against his name, had gummed on to the document against his official signature in French, a cameo wafer with the British Royal arms; such as are in use for closing official envelopes; which circumstance, throwing suspicion on the document, the Russian authorities refused to confirm Messrs. Tubino in the possession of the property, which, in the meantime, had been handed to them by Mrs. Tagliaferro's agent at Berdiansk, whereupon Messrs. Tubino, confident that a proper certificate would be given, commenced repairing the premises, and sending the Consular certificate back to Odessa, addressed it to their correspondents, Messrs. Raffalovich and Co., the bankers and merchants of this town, authorizing them to get a properly sealed document in lieu of the one sealed with the wafer, and on its receipt to pay Mrs. Tagliaferro the purchase-money, amounting to 11,500 silver roubles.

When on the point of calling on Messrs. Raffalovich and Co. to ask permission to inspect the document in question, I received a letter from those gentlemen, inclosing copy of the document certified as a true copy by themselves, and remarking on the nature of the seal, and asking me, as your Lordship will observe by the originals inclosed, to tell them in answer if I can legalize Mr. Murray's signature and certificate.

I called on them immediately, and after receiving from the chief of their firm a full confirmation of the particulars gathered from Mrs. Tagliaferro's brother and others, these gentlemen informed me also, that, after much discussion with Mrs. Tagliaferro, who insisted on the immediate payment of the money, in November last, on the plea that she wanted the money to go to England with, that person had, the day before her departure,

been to their office, and urgently requested that the document be delivered up to her; and on receiving a firm refusal, they received a call from Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins, who claimed the document, which they (Messrs. Raffalovich) handed to him against his official receipt, Mr. Perkins keeping it in his possession several days, and then returning it to Messrs. Raffalovich, begged to be allowed to retire his official receipt, which was given up to him.

Thus the document remains in the possession of Messrs. Raffalovich; and after inspecting it in original, I extracted a true copy of the signature and seal, the former in Mr. Murray's own handwriting, and a fac-simile of which I have attached to my translation of the certificate, which translation, with my marginal notes in red ink, I also transmit for your Lordship's information.

While I have for the moment deemed it more prudent to leave Messrs. Fratelli Tubino di Giacomo's letter unanswered, I have, during my interview with the chief of the firm of Messrs. Raffalovich and Co., verbally answered their communication, by refusing to confirm or legalize both the tenor of Mr. Murray's certificate, and the seal and signature attached thereto; and it is in consequence of this official step that I deem it necessary to lay this Report before your Lordship, wishing to explain at the same time that my refusal emanates:—

1st. From my strong doubts as to the power of this Consulate-General to grant a certificate for the sale of valuable property belonging to minors, and which property I have always understood to be administered by the Malta Tribunals.

2ndly. From the fact of their being nothing, as far as I can ascertain, on record at this office, either regarding this certificate or any other transaction connected with the Tagliaferro property.

3rdly. From unfavourable inferences drawn from the locally notorious imprudent conduct of Mrs. Margherita Tagliaferro, and extended observations of my own regarding her.

4thly. From the irregularity in so serious an official matter of the seal attached by Mr. Murray, and all absence of record or registration of its issue, or of the issue of the certificate in the archives of this office; and,

5thly. From the evasive answers given me on the subject by Mr. Perkins, both in writing and verbally, during which latter he confessed he had officially retired the document from Messrs. Raffalovich, saying, "You may ask me, but I will never tell you why I took it."

In conclusion it may be useful to mention, that Mrs. Margherita Tagliaferro received a passport from Mr. Perkins as Acting Consul-General on the 8th November, 1866, and left Odessa on the ^{2nd}_{14th} December, in the Russian steamer "Ghounib" for Marseilles, with two children, escorted by Mr. John Peach—Mr. Murray's English coachman—and what I can gather from her brother, M. de Ribas, she is supposed to be living in London at this moment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

Messrs. Tubino di Giacomo to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Monsieur,

Berdiansk, le ^{25 Janvier}_{6 Février} 1867.

DEPUIS l'automne dernier Madame Margherita Tagliaferro, sujette Britannique, nous fit la vente, par l'entremise de son procureur d'ici, de son grand immeuble situé vis-à-vis de l'Eglise Catholique en cette ville, aux conditions qui doivent vous être parfaitement connues.

A cause des formalités qu'exigeait le certificat que vous délivrâtes à la dite dame, pour la nantir de pouvoir vendre le dit immeuble pour le compte des pupilles, ce document lui fut renvoyé depuis deux mois afin de le faire ratifier. Depuis lors nous n'avons plus eu aucune nouvelle.

Ainsi, M. le Consul-Général, nous nous prenons la liberté de vous adresser la présente afin que vous ayez l'extrême obligeance de vouloir bien nous dire à quelle cause devons-nous attribuer ce silence, vu le retard du retour du susdit certificat, modifié dans le sens qu'exigent les autorités Russes de Kertch pour le passage en notre nom de l'immeuble sus-mentionné, en ne vous faisant pas ignorer les frais que nous avons déjà faits dans ce bâtiment délabré, qui exigeait, et exige encore, beaucoup de réparations.

Dans l'attente de votre bienveillante bonté une réponse, nous avons, &c.

(Signé)

FLLI. TUBINO DI GIACOMO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 89.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Mr. Perkins.

Sir,

Odessa, February 14, 1867.

MM. FRATELLI TUBINO DI GIACOMO, merchants of Berdiansk, in a letter dated ^{25th January} 6th February, have applied to this office regarding the purchase by them last autumn of large premises or landed property, situate opposite the Catholic church, in the town of Berdiansk, from the British subject Madame Margherita Tagliaferro.

MM. Fratelli Tubino di Giacomo refer in their letter to a certificate granted by this Consulate-General to the before-mentioned Madame Tagliaferro, empowering that person to sell the above-named property for account of her children, minors.

Finding nothing on record in this office as to the issue of this official certificate, and as the seals of this office were in your possession at the epoch stated by MM. Fratelli Tubino di Giacomo, I would feel obliged by your informing me as early as possible, if to your recollection any such certificate was granted, or if you have any knowledge of it, or any other document, regarding the sale of this property.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 89.

Mr. Perkins to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Odessa, February 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of to-day's date, and to state in reply (as already done before in my letter of the 17th ultimo) that I have delivered over to you all the archives of the Consulate, exactly and without a single exception or omission, as received by me from Mr. Consul-General Murray; and I refer you to him for all questions you may have to put relative to them or to affairs of the Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 89.

Messrs. Raffalovich and Co. to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Monsieur,

Odessa, le $\frac{11}{23}$ Février, 1867.

NOUS prenons la liberté de vous soumettre sous pli copie d'un certificat, portant la signature de Mr. Grenville-Murray, déposé chez nous par notre correspondant de Berdiansk, et vous prions de nous dire en réponse, si vous pouvez légaliser cette signature, ainsi que tout le certificat.

Sur votre désir, nous nous empresserons de vous présenter l'original.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé) RAFFALOVICH AND Co.

Inclosure 5 in No. 89.

Certificate granted to Mrs. Tagliaferro, by Consul-General Grenville-Murray, empowering her to sell property belonging to her children (minors), situated at Berdiansk.

[In Russian.]

NOUS soussignés, certifions la copie ci-contre d'un certificat, délivré par Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray en tout points conforme à l'original entre nos mains. Le cachet se trouve être collé au certificat, et consiste en une découpeure du cachet d'une enveloppe à l'usage du Consulat Anglais à Odessa, portant les armes de l'Angleterre en couleur blanche sur fond rouge, sans avoir autour les mots : Consulat Britannique à Odessa.

Le certificat n'est pas muni d'une traduction en Anglais et n'a point de numéro d'ordre.

Odessa, le $\frac{11}{23}$ Février, 1867.

(Signed)

RAFFALOVICH AND Co.

(Translation.)

CERTIFICATE given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa to the British subject Margherita Tagliaferro, to the effect that according to the petition presented by her, Margherita Tagliaferro,* to this Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Great Britain on the 8th instant,† in which she explains that, according to the decision of the Maltese Civil Tribunal,‡ dated 24th of September, 1863, and according to the act of partition made on the 24th of December of same year,§ the house and store, with all the buildings and ground situate in the town of Berdiansk, in Green Street, in the forty-third quarter (of the town) numbered 1 and 10, which has been in the joint possession of the partners of the former commercial firm of Berdiansk, Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons, has passed into the exclusive and full power of her children, Biagi, Felice, Odorada, Arsenia, and Alberta, minors, the heirs of her deceased husband, Simon Tagliaferro, for whom and which property she is named guardian; and that in receiving the aforesaid property at Berdiansk she finds it more profitable for the interest of the minors to sell the above-mentioned house and store, and the money to be received for the aforesaid property be placed out at interest in the credit institution, for which reason she demands this Consulate-General to grant her, according to the laws of Great Britain, permission to expropriate by sale the above-mentioned property at Berdiansk, which belongs to her children, over whom she is guardian.

In consequence of which Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, acknowledging the reasons and proofs (explained by Margherita Tagliaferro, the guardian of her own children and their property||) which have induced her to demand permission to sell the property at Berdiansk, belonging to her children, and considering them beneficial to the interest of minors, delivers to the mother, their guardian, the British subject Margherita Tagliaferro, this certificate based on the laws of Great Britain, certifying that Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa grants to the guardian Margherita Tagliaferro the right to sell the above-mentioned property of the minors at Berdiansk, to make a deed of sale, receive money, or expropriate by other means.

In witness whereof this certificate is delivered to her under signature and Consular seal, October 1866, Odessa.

(Red Medallion Wafer, with
Royal Arms affixed.)

(Signé)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
Consul-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique.

True Translation, to the best of my knowledge of the Russian language, of a copy of a certificate in the Russian language transmitted to me by Messrs. Raffalovich and Co., and true copy of a signature in French and fac-simile cameo wafer extracted by me from the original certificate in the possession of Messrs. Raffalovich and Co. of Odessa.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS,
Acting Consul-General.

No. 90.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 16, 1867.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 25th ultimo, regarding the certificate issued by Mr. Grenville-Murray to Madame Tagliaferro, widow of a Maltese, empowering her to sell some property at Berdiansk belonging to her children, who are minors, I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that he has called upon Mr. Grenville-Murray and Mr. Perkins for an explanation of their respective shares in this transaction.

When their replies are received, Lord Stanley will be in a position to give you instructions in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 91.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 16, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that Mr. Stevens has applied to him for instructions with respect to the legality of a certificate which appears to have been

* No Petition is on record, and Mr. Perkins admits he never saw any such document in the Archives, which, at this epoch, were under his charge.—G. A. STEVENS.

† October 1866.

‡ Not on record, as far as I can ascertain.—G. A. S.

§ Not on record, as far as I can ascertain.—G. A. S.

|| No document on record, as far as I can ascertain.—G. A. S.

issued by you last autumn to Madame Tagliaferro, widow of a Maltese, empowering her to sell some property at Berdiansk belonging to her children, who are minors. Mr. Stevens has referred this question to the Foreign Office, in consequence of the Russian authorities having raised a question as to the validity of this certificate, which is not sealed with the Consular seal, and because there is no record in the archives of the Consulate-General of your having issued such a certificate.

I am to transmit to you a letter upon this subject from Messrs. Fratelli Tubino di Giacomo,* of Berdiansk, together with an English translation of the certificate in question; and I am to desire that you will inform Lord Stanley on what authority you issued this certificate for the sale of the property of minors; why the official seal was not attached to it in the usual and proper manner; and why no record of the issue of such a certificate is to be found in the archives at Odessa.

You will return the accompanying papers, which are sent in original, with your reply to this letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 92.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Perkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 16, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that his attention has been called by the Acting British Consul-General at Odessa to the question of the legality of a certificate which appears to have been issued by Mr. Grenville-Murray, last autumn, to Madame Tagliaferro, widow of a Maltese, empowering her to sell some property at Berdiansk belonging to her children, who are minors.

It appears that you informed Mr. Stevens that you had no knowledge of the issue of such a certificate; but on the refusal of Messrs. Raffalovich, the correspondents in Odessa of the purchasers of the property, to deliver the certificate up to Madame Tagliaferro in November last, you are stated to have obtained it from them in exchange for your official receipt as Acting Consul-General, and after keeping it in your possession for several days, to have returned it to them.

I am to request that you will favour Lord Stanley with an explanation of your proceedings in this matter, and with any information which may throw a light upon the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 93.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

London, March 19, 1867.

IN returning the inclosed I have the honour to state that Mrs. Tagliaferro received authority to sell the property in question from Her Majesty's Courts at Malta.

The Russian document is merely an undated draft, and the petition to which it refers was never made, Her Majesty's Consulate-General having no jurisdiction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 94.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to state to you, in reply, that your explanation regarding the issue of a certificate to Madame Tagliaferro, empowering her to sell property at Berdiansk

* Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

belonging to her children, is not satisfactory; and I am to desire that you will answer categorically the questions contained in the inclosed paper, which you will return to this office, with your answers written opposite to each question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Inclosure in No. 94.

Questions to be answered by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

1. YOU state that "Mrs. Tagliaferro received authority to sell the property in question from Her Majesty's Courts at Malta;" was that authority produced to you? By what Court was it issued, and what was the date of it?

2. You state that "the Russian document is merely an undated draft." Did you not affix to it the following signature:—

" E. C. Grenville-Murray,
" Consul-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique?"

3. If you considered it only a draft, why did you affix an official signature to it?

4. Are you not aware that by affixing that official signature the document ceased to be a draft and purported to be an instrument for legal use?

5. Did you affix to the document a medallion of the Queen's arms?

6. Did you not know that, whatever effect such medallion might have upon a person unacquainted with the law, it could not legally be held to be your seal of office?

7. Why did you use such medallion which is not your proper seal of office?

8. What do you mean by saying that "the Russian document is merely an undated draft," when it bears the date of October 1866?

9. How came you to affix your official signature, as a British Agent, to a document written in the Russian language but intended for use by a British subject?

10. You state that "the petition to which it" (the certificate) "refers was never made." How came you then to record in the certificate which you signed in your official capacity that "the petition" had been "presented by her, Margherita Tagliaferro, to this Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Great Britain on the 8th instant" (8th October, 1866)?

11. You state that "Her Majesty's Consulate-General" had "no jurisdiction" in the matter. Did you know this when you affixed to the certificate your official signature and the medallion seal?

12. Why did you deliver the document so signed and sealed, or permit it to be delivered, to Madame Tagliaferro?

13. If the petition was never presented, how came it that the certificate was drawn at all?

14. How do you reconcile your averment that "Her Majesty's Consulate-General" has "no jurisdiction" in this case, with the following passage to which you have affixed your official signature:—

"Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa delivers to the mother, their guardian, the British subject, Margherita Tagliaferro, this certificate, based on the laws of Great Britain, certifying that Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa grants to the guardian, Margherita Tagliaferro, the right to sell the above mentioned property of the minors at Berdiansk, to make a deed of sale, receive money, or expropriate by other means?"

15. What do you mean by using the words "based on the laws of Great Britain?" Quote the laws to which you specially refer.

16. How came it that Madame Tagliaferro relied upon this certificate and produced it to the vendee apparently as her sole title as vendor?

17. If Madame Tagliaferro possessed the requisite authority from Her Majesty's Court at Malta, why was not such authority produced as her title and certified to be such?

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inquire when you intend to send answers to the questions put to you in my letter of the 30th ultimo.

I am at the same time to inform you that, seeing the gravity of the cases which have formed the subject of recent correspondence with you, and in regard to which you have not given satisfactory explanations, Lord Stanley has decided that an investigation shall be made on the spot at Odessa, into all those cases.

A gentleman of experience, competent for such a task, will shortly be sent from England for that purpose.*

You are, of course, at liberty to be present at such examination, but it will be conducted at Odessa whether you are there or not.

Until the result of this investigation shall have been made known to Lord Stanley, his Lordship will be unable to allow you to resume your duties as Consul-General.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

London, April 8, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. Murray's despatch of the 5th instant, inquiring when I intended to send answers to the questions put to me in his letter of the 30th ultimo; at the same time informing me that, seeing the gravity of the cases which have recently formed the subject of correspondence with me, and in regard to which I have not given satisfactory explanations, your Lordship has decided that an investigation shall be made on the spot, at Odessa, into all these cases; acquainting me that a gentleman of experience, competent for such a task, will shortly be sent from England for that purpose; telling me that I am at liberty to be present at such examination, but it will be conducted whether I am at Odessa or not; and, in conclusion, stating that until the result of this investigation shall have been made known to your Lordship, I shall not be allowed to resume my duties as Consul-General.

In reply, I have the honour to apologize for the delay which has occurred, but it would have appeared to me wanting in due respect to your Lordship to answer these questions without the investigation and attention I was unable to give them earlier.

In compliance with your Lordship's instructions I have now replied, to the best of my ability and recollection. But I cannot help feeling that in so doing I am placed under great disadvantage, being obliged to trust entirely to my recollection of a private affair considered of no importance when it happened; and I most respectfully submit that I cannot, in equity, be held responsible for any deficiencies or defects of memory.

With this preliminary explanation, I now return the questions and answers, together with a declaration and explanatory letter from Mrs. Tagliaferro, who is in England with her children; who asks to be interrogated, and who may be found at any time by a letter addressed to the care of the Rev. Dr. Emerton, D.D., Hanwell, Middlesex, who is tutor to her children.

Mrs. Tagliaferro is a lady belonging to the illustrious Russianized Spanish House of De Ribas, and there is no mystery whatever with regard to her affairs. When she went to Malta in 1863 respecting her late husband's inheritance, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople gave her a letter to the Governor. I gave her a letter to the Colonial Secretary, and these gentlemen recommended her to Dr. Richard Page, an eminent Maltese solicitor, who has ever since had the management of her affairs, and who, I am assured, was fully informed with reference to the building which has not been sold. This building does not by any means come under the description of "large premises," or "landed property," as it has been improperly described to your Lordship. It is a ruined barn or granary, which has been offered for sale during eight years without attracting a purchaser. It produced no rent, and was only accidentally saleable for a short time in consequence of the unprecedented harvest of last year in Southern Russia, creating a demand for any place in which corn could be put.

* See page 135.

It appears that the interest of the minors in this barn, which has not been sold, is so entirely contingent and dependent on the satisfaction of prior claims that it is stated to be in fact "nil," both in law and equity.

If it had been found of any use whatever to perfect a document of the nature of the undated draft found at my bankers, the draft would have been revised, the legal instrument duly prepared, the customary formalities observed, an official seal and signature affixed in the proper way, and the completed document duly registered; but it was not found necessary. Such a paper would have been entirely useless; and therefore this draft was left inchoate and incomplete, and only left unburnt in my banker's hands in consequence of my absence from Odessa.

I have the honour to express my deep regret that the cases which have formed the subject of recent correspondence with me have been represented to your Lordship as of so much gravity; as I have never been informed in what respect my explanations have been considered unsatisfactory.

February 21.—Mr. Murray wrote to inquire why I had apparently granted British passports to Messrs. Vucina, without charging the usual fee upon them.

On the same day I replied that the said passports were granted on the written declaration of two resident merchants that Messrs. Vucina were British subjects. That I have not charged fees upon the very few passports issued by me at Odessa, because, on consideration, there appeared to be no distinct warrant for such a charge in the Consular Fee Table.

March 2.—Mr. Murray wrote to me again on this subject. With respect to my first statement, he quoted an extract from my despatch of the 19th of September, 1863, stating that Messrs. Vucina were Ionian subjects. With regard to my second statement, he inquired whether "there is not authority in the Fee Table to require a fee of 5s. for annexing the seal of office and signature to any document not otherwise mentioned." Further remarking that in six years there appeared to have been issued 156 passports, at a loss to the Exchequer of 39l.

March 4.—I rejoined—

1. That the regulations I had observed for the issue of British passports at Odessa were the same as those in force at the Foreign Office in London; and therefore, when a respectable firm of resident merchants applied for a passport in the usual way, it was granted; that the extract quoted from my despatch might refer to other members of the numerous Vucina family, it being the custom of Greek firms to have partners of different nationalities, that they might not suffer by political events.

2. That with respect to the 156 passports granted gratis, the whole of them, with exception of about a dozen, were given to distressed British seamen or paupers.

I submitted that whereas a passport in London only costs 2s.; that at Constantinople, the nearest city to Odessa, it costs nothing; and that as a Russian passport only costs 1s. 5d., a fee of 5s. could not be enforced at Odessa without serious disputes and inconvenience, for that it might reasonably be urged by a traveller that if so large and unusual a charge were to be made for a passport it ought to be plainly mentioned.

I added, that if I had erred in judgment, I entreated your Lordship's indulgence and favourable consideration of my error.

Not having heard again from Mr. Murray on this subject, I have the honour to inquire in what respect the explanation I have made is insufficient or unsatisfactory.

February 22.—Mr. Murray sent me copy of a letter addressed by the Russian Government to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, accompanied by a Report from the Governor-General of New Russia upon the claim advanced by Her Majesty's Government to be repaid 1,193l. 7s. 7d., being the expenditure incurred by Mr. Consul Zohrab in the case of the unpunished murder of Captain Middleton; and adding that it appeared from the Russian statement that I had misinformed Her Majesty's Government.

I was then required to make any explanation I had to offer.

February 23.—I answered that, with regard to Mr. Consul Zohrab's expenses as witness in the numerous cases of the murder of British Seamen at Odessa, I emphatically denied having misled Her Majesty's Government in any respect whatever; that as I could not suffer such an imputation to remain an hour uncontradicted, I referred to my despatches written under a full sense of my duties and responsibilities. I added, that I was (and now repeat that I am) ready to confirm and explain my reports, in any and every particular, whenever your Lordship would honour me with an interview, as there were certain facts in connection with the business that it would be unusual to put into a despatch.

February 27.—Mr. Murray wrote to me again on this subject, and inquired how I reconciled my denial of having misled Her Majesty's Government with certain extracts he inclosed from my despatches.

February 28.—I respectfully requested to be informed in what particular the denial contained in my letter of the 23rd February was not to be reconciled with the extracts quoted from my despatches, having myself failed after attentive consideration to discover the discrepancy between them.

The charge of having misled Her Majesty's Government, brought against an old servant of the Crown, demanded immediate refutation. I anxiously awaited an investigation into every detail of the case. I considered this accusation of a most serious and painful character. But as up to the present time I have received no answer to my request for information on this important subject, I have the honour to repeat the earnest expression not only of my readiness, but of my deep anxiety to be fully examined, either verbally or in writing, upon a case in which I have reason to think myself unjustly treated, owing to some misunderstanding, and to have been put to serious personal expense after having scrupulously obeyed my instructions, and with much exertion succeeded in discovering the murderer of a British merchant captain, who had been beaten and trampled to death with complete impunity.

The evidence in my hands will be found quite sufficient to exculpate me from all error; and, I trust, to put this very singular case in a light not unfavourable to my official conduct, and forbearance under unmerited obloquy.

March 2.—Mr. Murray wrote to enquire respecting an empty box and some papers, alleged to have been left in my care by Mr. Charlton; and to ask whether on the registration of these papers I had levied and accounted for the usual fees.

March 4.—I answered that I would instantly make inquiry, and communicate the result to your Lordship; and that undoubtedly the proper fees were levied on registered papers, and duly accounted for.

March 19.—I further stated that, having made inquiry, I had ascertained Mr. Charlton referred to some papers of which I had taken charge at the request of the late Mr. Cutbill, and which, having no reference to Her Majesty's Consulate, I had felt bound deliver to that gentleman's representative.

Mr. Murray then addressed me seventeen questions upon the subject.

March 26.—I explained before answering these questions that the late Mr. Cutbill, who was the manager of the Commercial Bank of London, was an old friend of my family. That in the latter part of the year 1861 he informed my wife that he had given a letter of introduction to me to some friends of his who were negotiating a contract at Odessa. Mr. Cutbill stated that he was interested in this contract, and that Mr. Furness was his friend. Afterwards he requested my wife to ask me to take charge of any papers brought to me for him, which she did. All papers placed by Mr. Charlton in my hands were received and kept by me for Mr. Cutbill as my personal friend. Mr. Charlton sent me an empty box, I placed Mr. Cutbill's papers with some of my own and some clothes in it. On my return to England, it was sent after me, and I delivered it to Mr. Cutbill's son and executor.

After this preliminary statement, I replied to all the questions addressed to me.

I also inclosed a letter from Mr. Alfred Cutbill, confirming my replies in every particular, and stating that the papers deposited with me, and taken charge of at the request of his late father, had been handed to Mr. Furness, because his father's executors had no longer reason to detain them, Mr. Furness' affairs having been pretty well arranged with the said executors recently and since his late failure.

"I am sorry," he added, "that Mr. Charlton should have put you to so much trouble; but I have no doubt he is labouring under some misconception, and I know that he was ignorant of the relations between my father and Mr. Furness with reference to such private papers as were recently under your (my) charge."

Since then, Mr. Cutbill has again written to me to say he has seen Mr. Furness; and it seems that Mr. Charlton is not only entirely under a misapprehension, but that the correspondence between himself and Mr. Stevens took place without any reference to his employer, who had never been informed of it, and had not authorized it.

Therefore, as Mr. Cutbill's executors are satisfied that I have done my duty to him, and Mr. Furness is satisfied, I hope your Lordship will be satisfied.

March 16.—Mr. Murray wrote to me inclosing copy of a Russian paper alleged to be a certificate issued to Mrs. Tagliaferro empowering her to sell some property, and inquiring on what authority I had issued this certificate, and why it had not been registered?

March 19.—Having investigated the affair, I replied that Mrs. Tagliaferro had received authority to sell this small property from Her Majesty's Courts at Malta; and that the alleged certificate was merely an undated draft never completed, as Her Majesty's Consulate-General had nothing to do with the business.

March 30.—Mr. Murray desired me to answer seventeen questions on this subject.

Meantime I received a letter from Mr. Pheodorovitz,* a British subject at Odessa, stating that Mr. Stevens had suddenly called his nationality in question, and advised him to pay 100*l.* to some person in London to prove it.

Mr. Pheodorovitz added that Mr. Stevens was getting up cases to injure me at the Foreign Office in expectation of succeeding me as Consul-General.

I had previously received several letters from other people to the same effect, and had put them aside; but I felt bound to inclose this to your Lordship:—

1st. Because Mr. Pheodorovitz alleged that he had been advised to pay 100*l.*; and, 2ndly. Because he suggested that papers at my office had been purposely destroyed.

April 5.—I explained in my covering despatch the claims of Mr. Pheodorovitz to British nationality; and stated that having been informed Mr. Stevens had removed the Consulate to his hotel, taken all my public and private papers to his rooms, and re-arranged the archives, and dismissed my clerks, I respectfully trusted under such unusual circumstances I should not be held responsible for any paper that might appear to be missing.

I concluded by adding that, after nine years' residence at a distant post, I had naturally hoped to devote my leave to private affairs, and ventured respectfully to appeal to your Lordship for protection against such proceedings.

Late on the evening of the same day I received a despatch from Mr. Murray making no reference to this appeal, but inquiring when I meant to answer the questions addressed to me on the 30th ultimo, and informing me of the investigation to be held at Odessa.

Having now answered all these questions, I have the honour to observe that although I should be glad to have my conduct investigated by any impartial gentleman competent to such an investigation, I most respectfully submit that before this investigation takes place I ought to be informed in what respect my explanation of any of the foregoing cases are considered unsatisfactory; and I would also further submit that the investigation could not be conducted with advantage anywhere but in London, especially with regard to the cases of Captain Middleton, Mr. Cutbill, Mr. Furness, and Mrs. Tagliaferro, the documents and witnesses in these cases being all in London.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Questions to be answered by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Q. 1. You "state that Mrs. Tagliaferro received authority to sell the property in question from Her Majesty's Courts at Malta." Was that authority produced to you? By what Court was it issued? and what was the date of it?

Q. 2. You state that "the Russian document is merely an undated draft." Did you not affix to it the following signature?—

"E. C. Grenville-Murray,
"Consul-Général de Sa Majesté
"Britannique."

Q. 3. If you considered it only a draft, why did you affix an official signature to it?

Q. 4. Are you not aware by affixing that official signature the document ceased to be a draft, and purported to be an instrument for legal use?

A. 1. Mrs. Tagliaferro made that statement. See inclosed declaration.

To the best of my recollection it was.

I do not remember Mrs. Tagliaferro's declaration; it was issued by the Court which divided her husband's inheritance, and that the date was 1864. See declaration.

A. 2. I state the truth. It was merely an undated draft, or incomplete paper, referring to a proposal never carried out.

I cannot remember. It is not my practice to affix my signature in French. I never in my life issued an official paper in Russian, or signed any paper in the Russian language officially, without a properly authenticated translation indivisibly annexed to it.

A. 3. If it had not been considered a draft, my official signature would have been affixed in English.

A. 4. I am perfectly aware of the value of an official signature. But a draft paper sent through my banker to a Russian man of business, in order that he might advise whether, if a document of that description were perfected in an official form, it would

* See page 129.

Q. 5. Did you affix to the document a medallion of the Queen's arms?

Q. 6. Did you not know that, whatever effect such medallion might have upon a person unacquainted with the law, it could not legally be held to be your seal of office?

Q. 7. Why did you use such medallion, which is not your proper seal of office?

Q. 8. What do you mean by saying "the Russian document is merely an undated draft," when it bears the date of October 1866?

Q. 9. How came you to affix your official signature as a British Agent to a document written in the Russian language, but intended for use by a British subject?

Q. 10. You state that "the petition to which it" (the certificate) "refers, was never made." How came you then to record in the certificate which you signed in your official capacity, that "the petition" had "been presented by her, Margherito Tagliaferro, to this Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Great Britain on the 8th instant?" (8th October, 1866.)

Q. 11. You state that "Her Majesty's Consulate-General" had "no jurisdiction" in the matter. Did you know this when you affixed to the certificate your official signature and the medallion seal?

Q. 12. Why did you deliver the docu-

be effectual for the purpose intended, and afterwards returned to my banker as valueless, which it was, did not purport to be an instrument for legal use.

A. 5. I may have affixed a gummed wafer, such as I commonly use, to show where the official seal would be affixed, should it be necessary to prepare the document which it was not necessary to prepare.

A. 6. It appears to me quite impossible that the man of business to whom this incomplete draft was submitted, could look upon it as anything more than a draft; and it is certain that, in his opinion, the instrument, if put in an official form, would have been valueless.

A. 7. Merely as a convenient mode of showing where the official seal would be placed.

A. 8. I mean, that in all official documents the day of the month is written in full. Mrs. Tagliaferro declares that the date was here omitted, with express and declared intention. The paper was what it was plainly stated to be, merely "an undated draft."

A. 9. I did not affix my official signature to it; and it was precisely because it was not intended for use by a British subject, but merely submitted for the opinion of a Russian man of business, that it was written in Russian. A paper of this kind, had it been necessary legally to perfect it, which it was not, must have been drawn in English, and translated into Russian.

A. 10. I state, and Mrs. Tagliaferro declares, that both papers were in an inchoate and incomplete form. The Consulate never issued any legal document without a formal demand, called a "petition," being presented, setting forth the right of the petitioner to receive such a document. The petition here mentioned is merely the name of one paper never completed, referring to another never executed, both having reference to a deed that never was done. Both papers were drafted under a mistaken impression that it would be necessary to perfect instruments which it was not necessary to perfect, and they were therefore left in an incomplete state as drafts. I did not prepare either of them. I never thought either of them necessary. Both were proved to be waste paper; and the draft found at my bankers was only left unburnt in consequence of my absence from Odessa.

A. 11. I knew that Foreign Consuls have no jurisdiction in Russia; but Mrs. Tagliaferro's agent held the mistaken opinion that they had, till assured that such a draft as he had drawn would, if it were legally perfected, stamped, and completed, be still but waste paper, of no force or effect at all.

A. 12. I did not deliver this undated and

ment so signed and sealed, or permit it to be delivered to Mrs. Tagliaferro ?

Q. 13. If the petition was never presented, how came it that the certificate was drawn at all ?

Q. 14. How do you reconcile your averment that "Her Majesty's Consulate-General" has "no jurisdiction" in this case, with the following passage to which you have affixed your official signature :—"Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate at Odessa . . . delivers to the mother, their guardian, the British subject, Margherita Tagliaferro, this certificate, based on the laws of Great Britain, certifying that Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa grants to the guardian, Margherita Tagliaferro, the right to sell the above-mentioned property of the minors at Berdiansk, to make a deed of sale, receive money, or expropriate by other means."

Q. 15. What do you mean by using the words "based on the laws of Great Britain?" Quote the laws to which you specially refer.

Q. 16. How came it that Mrs. Tagliaferro relied upon this certificate, and produced it to the vendee apparently as her sole title as vendor ?

Q. 17. If Mrs. Tagliaferro possessed the requisite authority from Her Majesty's Court at Malta, why was not such authority produced as her title, and certified to be such ?

incomplete draft to Mrs. Tagliaferro, or permit it to be delivered to her. (See her declaration to this effect.) So that "the certificate said to have been issued to her," is merely this rough draft which was never in her hands at all.

A. 13. A draft of this certificate was made, in order that it might be submitted, as before stated, by the agent of Mrs. Tagliaferro for legal opinion.

A. 14. That Her Majesty's Consulate-General has no jurisdiction, is a fact which admits of no dispute. Mrs. Tagliaferro declares that the language here quoted was copied word for word from her Maltese Powers of Sale. But these words are only used in the incomplete draft of a paper prepared in error altogether, referring to a sale which never took place, and was merely submitted for the opinion of a lawyer, who at once declared it useless and void.

A. 15. I did not use the words. They are declared to have been copied from the Maltese Powers of Sale by the person who prepared this incomplete draft.

A. 16. Mrs. Tagliaferro declares she did not rely on this incomplete draft at all, but solely upon the title-deeds in her possession, and the Maltese Powers of Sale. In fact, there was neither vendee nor vendor, the property not having been sold.

A. 17. Mrs. Tagliaferro declares she did possess the requisite authority; that it was produced as her title; and that she did not have it certified because she had ascertained that the Consulate-General had nothing to do with the business.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

40, Lower Belgrave Place, Pimlico, London,
le 5 Avril, 1867.

Monsieur,

EN réponse aux questions que vous me faites—

1. Je déclare de vous avoir montré l'autorisation légale que j'ai reçue de Malte de vendre mon bien à Berdianska.

La Cour qui a fait cette acte d'autorisation était celle qui s'est occupé à faire les autres actes de partage de l'héritage de feu mon mari. Le date doit être de l'année 1864.

2. Je déclare que le document laissé chez votre banquier est un brouillon d'un document préparé par erreur de mon homme d'affaire; et qu'il n'a jamais été exécuté, et que la date a été omise avec intention.

Je déclare aussi que la pétition dont il est question dans ce brouillon n'a jamais été présentée par moi au Consulat-Général d'Angleterre. Ces deux brouillons ont été effectivement préparés par mon homme d'affaire à Odessa, mais je l'ai assuré que le Consulat n'avait rien à voir dans mes affaires.

Ces deux papiers n'étaient, pour vrai dire, préparés que pour surmonter une difficulté supposée, laquelle en effet n'a jamais existée du tout, comme plus tard mon homme d'affaire s'est convaincu lui-même d'après les avis qu'il prit sur ces deux brouillons.

3. Ce document a été renvoyé en confiance des mains en mains, par un banquier honorable d'Odessa, à mon procureur à Berdianska, M. Carburi, ancien ami de ma famille; lequel s'était formellement engagé à nous le rendre, aussitôt qu'il aurait prit des informations sur la nécessité d'exécuter ces documents d'après les brouillons, que je lui avais déjà dis être inutiles.

M. Carburi a effectivement renvoyé ces brouillons comme il s'était engagé, en déclarant que c'était complètement inutile; mais comme il est arrivé après votre départ pour Londres, il l'a laissé en dépôt chez votre banquier; et quand je suis allé chez lui pour les prendre et les détruire, il a refusé de me les donner.

Quant au langage employé dans ce brouillon, c'est la répétition, mot pour mot, du langage employé dans les pleins-pouvoirs légaux que j'ai reçue de Malte en changeant seulement la désignation de l'autorité, et c'est sur ce plein-pouvoir de Malte que je me suis uniquement basé pour vendre ce bien, quoique effectivement il m'appartient comme mon bien personnel, et l'intérêt de mes enfants y est nul.

Agreez, Monsieur, l'assurance d'affectueux respect que vous portent mes enfants et moi; et nos regrets que vous ayez eu le moindre désagrement à souffrir à cause de tant de bontés que vous avez toujours eu pour nous.

(Signé) MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

P.S.—Il est bon d'ajouter que je suis légalement nommé, par la Cour de Malte, seule tutrice et administratrice des biens de feu mon mari en Prusse, et gardienne unique de mes enfants; et je suis prête à répondre à toutes les interrogations possibles sur les documents légaux en ma possession.

Inclosure 3 in No. 96.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

40, Lower Belgrave Place, Pimlico, London,
le 4 Avril, 1867.

Monsieur,

JE suis très peinée d'apprendre que la vente de mon bien à Berdianska a complètement manqué. C'est un grand malheur pour moi, car cette perte que je fais est tout ce que je possède personnellement.

Voici un compte exacte de l'état de cette affaire.

A sa mort mon mari a laissé un immeuble dans la ville de Berdianska composé de plusieurs bâties réunis formant un seul bien.

Une partie de ce bien est mon bien personnel.

L'autre partie appartenait à feu mon mari.

La troisième part appartenait au père et au frère de mon mari, ses associés dans le commerce.

A la mort de mon beau-père, je suis allé à Malte pour régler mes comptes d'héritage.

D'après les comptes vérifiés il revenait à mon mari de la maison de commerce 6,000 roubles argent. Au lieu de cet argent on m'a cédé, ou plutôt vendu, la part du bien de Berdianska appartenant au père et au frère de mon mari, pour la somme de 6,000 roubles.

J'ai accepté cette cession, avec tous les titres de ce bien, pour les raisons que j'allais retourner en Russie prendre mes enfants et les mener pour leur éducation en Angleterre, et ainsi j'ai eu plus de facilités de vendre ce bien que ceux qui vivaient à Malte, et ne connaissaient pas le pays. Ainsi c'était un acte de complaisance et d'affection de ma part d'avoir accepté ce bien.

Dans le partage général on m'a donné l'autorisation de vendre ce bien comme étant bien personnel. La fortune de mes enfants étant assez considérable est placée dans les fonds publics, ayant égard à cette vente à part qui a été faite à moi.

Vu l'urgente nécessité de vendre un bien qui ne rapportait rien, qui se détériore chaque année davantage par manque des réparations et la rapide décadence de cette ville de Berdianska, j'ai cherché depuis huit ans à m'en défaire, sans pouvoir trouver un seul acheteur pour aucun prix. En attendant ces bâties depuis plusieurs années menacent de crouler; car la grande quantité des rats ont miné tant les fondements, et pour les réparer il faudrait beaucoup d'argent plus qu'ils ne valent.

La bonne récolte tout-à-fait exceptionnelle de l'année passée a fait qu'un ancien ami

de la famille, M. Tubino, avait besoin des magasins pour déposer ses blés qu'il attendait de l'intérieur; à cause de notre ancienne amitié seulement a donné la préférence à mes magasins, et a fini par se décider à les acheter.

Nous sommes convenus pour le prix de 11,500 roubles argent, à peu près le double du montant de l'estimation fait l'année 1865.

Pour ne pas perdre une occasion si avantageuse j'ai tâché de faciliter cette vente en payant toutes les dettes qui pesaient sur ce bien depuis des longues années, et qui étaient faite par feu mon mari.

C'est à cet effet que m'étant adressé à vous, vous eûtes l'extrême bonté de me venir en aide en me prêtant, après votre départ d'Odessa, les 315*l.* avec lesquelles j'ai pus payer ces dettes. J'ai donc fait tous les sacrifices possibles pour la facilitation de cette vente.

Voilà que M. Stevens, gérant le Consulat Britannique à Odessa, sans me prévenir d'aucune façon, vient se mêler de mes affaires tout-à-fait particulières, en faisant une espèce d'enquête, et fait manquer la vente de ce bien, me cause une perte irréparable, me prive de l'intérêt que j'aurais pus tirer depuis longtemps de cet argent.

A cause de ce M. Stevens me voilà tout-à-fait ruinée, car ce bien est tout ce que je possède, est mon seul avoir.

Non seulement qu'il m'a fait manquer une vente si avantageuse, mais encore je me vois, à cause de tous les tripages qu'il a fait, plongée dans des dettes, et mise par conséquence dans une position très pénible. Tout cela parceque M. Stevens a eu l'idée de venir s'occuper de mes affaires.

Il m'a gâté la seule chance de vendre ce bien qui s'est présenté après des longues années, et que j'ai dû uniquement à la récolte exceptionnelle de l'année passée et à l'amitié de mes anciennes connaissances, mes vieux amis.

Mes enfants vous envoient leurs compléments du collège. Ils se portent tous bien, ils sont content et heureux; le Dr. Emerton les aiment beaucoup.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

No. 97.

Mr. Perkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 25.)

My Lord,

Odessa, April 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 16th ultimo,* stating that your Lordship's attention has been drawn by the Acting British Consul-General at Odessa to the question of the legality of a certificate which appears to have been issued by Mr. Grenville-Murray last autumn to Madame Tagliaferro, widow of a Maltese, empowering her to sell some property at Berdiansk, belonging to her children, who are minors; and requesting me to give an explanation of my proceedings in this matter, and with any information which may throw a light upon the case.

I have the honour to state, in reply, that Mr. Stevens has evidently misrepresented the case to your Lordship, as the facts are the following:—

Madame Tagliaferro wishing to refer to a document which was in the hands of Messrs. Raffalovich and Co., here, regarding, as she stated, her property, requested my official interference to that effect. I obtained the document against my receipt, and after having submitted to her the same for perusal, it was returned to Messrs. Raffalovich and Co., withdrawing my receipt.

On Mr. Stevens addressing me on the 22nd November last, from Nicolaieff, about Madame Tagliaferro's affair, I wrote, in reply, on the 26th, that "I heard that Madame Tagliaferro had sold a property at Berdiansk, but knew nothing more about it. That no money had been deposited in the Consulate-General; nor did I know if any would be deposited," &c.; and this was all I knew about the business at that time. And on an interview, many weeks later, when I chanced to be in his rooms at the hotel in Odessa, and after I had, meanwhile, been applied to by Madame Tagliaferro, as above stated, I informed Mr. Stevens of the fact of Madame Tagliaferro having applied to me officially to obtain the document in question.

Had Mr. Stevens stated to your Lordship that there was a lapse of many weeks between his first and second reference to this matter, which is proved by the date of his letter and the time of his arrival at Odessa, your Lordship would not have been led into error by apparent insinuating statements.

I have only to add to your Lordship, that as the document I obtained from Messrs. Raffalovich and Co. for the perusal of Madame Tagliaferro was written in the Russian language, which I cannot read, I had no knowledge of its contents at the time, and I could learn nothing since then to enable me to give to your Lordship any further information on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

No. 98.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1867.

LORD STANLEY has had under his consideration, and has referred to the proper Law Adviser of the Crown, your letter of the 8th instant,* upon the subject of your proceedings in the case of Madame Tagliaferro: and I am now to state to you that your answers to the questions contained in my letter of the 30th ultimo are by no means satisfactory.

The issue of the so-called certificate signed by you, and purporting to be officially sealed, is still substantially unexplained both by you and by Madame Tagliaferro, upon whose letters you appear chiefly to rely for your vindication. This lady asserts that the certificate, which she calls a "brouillon," was prepared by her legal adviser, contrary to her representation, and that it was afterwards abandoned by him as useless. Nevertheless, it was not only not destroyed, but carefully preserved, and it appears to have been presented to Messrs. Tubino di Giacomo, the purchasers of the property; for these persons wrote on the ^{25th January}_{6th February} to the Consulate-General, and said that the property was sold to them by the Agent at Berdiansk of Madame Tagliaferro, "aux conditions qui doivent vous être parfaitement connues," and that the certificate delivered to them by Madame Tagliaferro, as the title to sell on behalf of the minors, was found to be informal by the Russian authorities, and was consequently returned to the Consulate-General "depuis deux mois, à la fin de la faire ratifier. Depuis lors nous n'avons plus eu aucune nouvelle."

As the accounts given by yourself and by Madame Tagliaferro are wholly irreconcilable with this statement, Lord Stanley can only leave this matter to be investigated by the gentleman who is about to be employed in the inquiry into the affairs of the Consulate-General at Odessa, but his Lordship wishes to give you the opportunity to make any further statement on behalf of yourself or of Madame Tagliaferro, in order that such statement may be referred, together with the other papers, to the gentleman selected to conduct that inquiry.

I have only to add that the reason alleged by you for signing the document referred to and gumming on an improper seal appears to his Lordship to be quite insufficient.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 99.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord,

London, April 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 26th instant on the subject of my proceedings in the case of Mrs. Tagliaferro, and, in reply, beg leave to refer your Lordship to my answering despatch of the 8th instant, and the accompanying categorical answers to the seventeen questions transmitted to me by Mr. James Murray.

Mrs. Tagliaferro does not state that the draft certificate was prepared by her legal adviser, but by her man of business. The draft referred to was not found to be merely informal, but to be utterly useless, as I have already stated.

With reference to the quotations given by Mr. James Murray from the letter of Messrs. Tubino di Giacomo, I have only to observe that any investigation conducted by

an intelligent and impartial person must establish the accuracy of the account given by myself and by Mrs. Tagliaferro.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

[For further Correspondence on this subject, see the General Correspondence commencing at page 141.]

As to the Validity of Mr. Ullo's Marriage, solemnized at the
British Consulate-General at Odessa : 1867.

No. 100.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 5.)

My Lord,

Odessa, March 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed for your Lordship's information an extract, with my translation, and a certificate of marriage, issued by this Consulate-General to Mr. N. A. Ullo on the occasion of the solemnization of his marriage regarding which, as your Lordship will observe, Mr. Ullo has called upon me to offer an opinion.

Bearer of his own letter, Mr. Ullo explained that a Roman Catholic clergyman has tried to persuade him to give him this certificate, and that both himself and the family of Mrs. Ullo (people in a respectable position as storekeepers to Messrs. Mahs and Co.) have been for a long time labouring under anxiety regarding this subject, and wished me to give him a new certificate worded differently, which, I informed him, I did not feel authorized to do without first referring the matter to your Lordship.

I have also the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of the duplicate of the certificate of Mr. Ullo's marriage, on record in the Register of Marriages of this Office, by which it appears that Mr. Ullo was married "according to the rights and ceremonies of the Church of England," and so it was originally in the duplicate given to Mr. Ullo, who explains that, on going one day to Mr. Murray and stating that both he and Mrs. Ullo were Roman Catholics, that gentleman took up a pen and made the alteration as it now stands in the original inclosed.

Another marriage, "No. 13 of 1862," about which, also, I have been indirectly questioned, is recorded as solemnized by Mr. Murray "according to the rites and ceremonies of the Churches of Rome and Russia;" and not one of the twenty-four marriages solemnized at this Consulate appear as having been performed according to Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, as I have always supposed they should be registered, and I fear most of them would cause grave doubts if ever their legality should be called into question.

When receiving the current archives from Mr. Perkins, that gentleman handed to me a Foreign Office despatch addressed to Mr. Grenville-Murray, dated November 19,* signed by Mr. Egerton, stating, for Mr. Murray's future guidance, that the provisions of the law must in no case be set aside for the convenience of individuals, and excusing in a great degree irregularities which Mr. Murray, in his letter of 17th November,† admitted to have taken place regarding the marriages of Messrs. Webster and Brennan; but as Mr. Murray's letter is not on record, the instruction is incomplete for any one but Mr. Murray, though I myself am aware of the circumstances connected with these two marriages, which Messrs. Webster and Brennan have informed me are to be legalized by Act of Parliament, which I venture to suggest, in the interest of many parties, might include all the marriages performed and registered at the Consulate-General of Odessa, a course which might avert much litigation hereafter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

* No. 45.

† No. 44.

Inclosure 1 in No. 100.

Mr. Ullo to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Odessa, ^{February 22} March 6, 1867.

I TAKE the liberty by the present to inclose the certificate of my marriage given to me by this Consulate-General, begging you to tell me if it is in order, for it seems to me doubtful that the Consul has the right to marry me under the rites and ceremonies of the Church of Rome, which the Catholic priest assures me he is not in a state (not empowered) to do, and which it interests me to know for the true legitimacy of my children with regard to the exigencies of the civil law with respect to marriages.

Inclosure 2 in No. 100.

Certificate of Marriage as given by Consulate-General to Mr. Ullo.

1861.

Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
11	1861 Nov. 23	Nereo A. Ullo ..	24	Bachelor .	Broker . . .	Odessa ..	Salvatore Ullo ..	Bank Cashier.
		Chiara Cordich ..	21	Spinster .	Storekeeper's daughter	Odessa ..	Giorgio Cordich .	Storekeeper.

Married in the British Consulate-General according to the rites and ceremonies of Rome
the Church of England, by banns, by me,
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*

This marriage was solemnized between us :

(Signed) NEREO A. ULLO.
CHIARA CORDICH.

In the presence of us :

(Signed) PIERRE CORDICH.
T. G. SMITH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 100.

Copy of Record of Mr. Ullo's Marriage, from the Register of Marriages of the Consulate-General of Odessa.

British Consul's District of Russian Ports in the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff.

1861.

Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
11	1861 Nov. 23	Nereo A. Ullo ..	24	Bachelor .	Broker . . .	Odessa ..	Salvatore Ullo ..	Bank Cashier.
		Chiara Cordich ..	21	Spinster .	Storekeeper's daughter	Odessa ..	Giorgio Cordich .	Storekeeper.

Married in the British Consulate-General, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, by banns, by me,
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*

This marriage was solemnized between us :

(Signed) NEREO A. ULLO.
CHIARA CORDICH.

In the presence of us :

(Signed) PIERRE CORDICH.
T. G. SMITH.

No. 101.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, and to transmit to you a copy of the Act of Parliament passed on the 29th ultimo, 30 Vict., cap. 2,* which legalises all marriages solemnized at Odessa, previously to the passing thereof, by or in the presence of Mr. G. Murray (both or one of the parties to such marriage being subjects, or a subject, of Great Britain), notwithstanding any non-compliance with the provisions of the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68.

A further reply will be made to the inquiry in your despatch regarding the marriage certificate of Mr. Ullo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 102.

Mr. James Murray to the Registrar-General.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you a despatch from the Acting British Consul-General at Odessa, and I am to request that you will favour his Lordship with your opinion as to the correct mode of recording marriages under circumstances such as are described in Mr. Stevens' despatch.

I am to request that you will return Mr. Stevens' despatch to this office.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 103.

The Registrar-General to Mr. James Murray.—(Received April 12.)

Sir,

General Register Office, Somerset House, April 11, 1867.

I NOW return Mr. Stevens' despatch of the 22nd ultimo, which was transmitted to me in your letter of yesterday.

The entry of the marriage of Mr. Ullo, which took place in November 1861, in the British Consulate at Odessa, is not correctly made in the Register: it ought to have been "by license" or "without license;" there is no such thing as a marriage "by banns" in a Consulate.

If the marriage was really solemnized "according to the rites of the Church of England," as is recorded by Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray in the original Register and in the copy deposited here under the signature and Consular seal of Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray, much blame would appear to attach to him for altering the word "England" into "Rome" in the copy given to Mr. Ullo.

If, on the other hand, the marriage was actually celebrated in the presence of a priest "according to the rites of the Church of Rome," the original entry in the Register should have been altered by Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray according to the truth of the case, as soon as the error had been discovered, in the manner provided by the 44th section of 6 and 7 Wm. IV, cap. 86, and a copy of the entry with the alteration in the margin should have been sent to me here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE GRAHAM.

No. 104.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 16, 1867.

APPLICATION has been made by a Mr. Ullo for information as to the validity of a marriage certificate issued to him by you, in which he states that, upon his representing

* See No. 50.

that both he and his wife were Roman Catholics, you altered the word "England" to "Rome."

Lord Stanley has caused this matter to be referred to the Registrar-General, and I am now to state to you that the certificate in question is irregular in several particulars.

In the first place it should have stated that the marriage was performed "by license" or "without licence;" there is no such a thing as a marriage "by banns" in a Consulate.

Secondly, if the marriage was really solemnized "according to the rites of the Church of England," as is recorded by you in the original Register, and in the copy deposited in the General Registry Office under your seal and signature, blame would attach to you, if, as asserted by Mr. Ullo, you altered the word "England" into "Rome" in the copy given to him.

If, on the other hand, the marriage was actually celebrated in the presence of a priest "according to the rites of the Church of Rome," the original entry in the Register should have been altered by you according to the facts of the case, as soon as the error had been discovered, in the manner provided by the 44th section of 6 and 7 Wm. IV, cap. 86; and a copy of the entry, with the alteration in the margin, should have been sent to the Registrar-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 105.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 18.),

My Lord,

London, April 17, 1867.

IN reply to Mr. Murray's despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour to state to your Lordship that I was under the impression that when public notice was given, during divine service, of an intended marriage by a duly ordained clergyman of the Church of England officiating at the Consulate, and that the names of the parties were affixed for three weeks in a conspicuous part of the Consular Office, the marriage should be certified as performed by banns.

With respect to Mr. Ullo's marriage, it was performed at the Roman Catholic Church of Odessa according to the rites and ceremonies of that religion professed by both parties, and was duly registered first on the church books and afterwards at the Consulate.

The precise language of the entry in the Consular register was no doubt taken down by my clerk from Mr. Ullo's own declaration. As the marriage was performed at a church and not at the Consulate, my clerk could have no personal knowledge how it was performed. No doubt my clerk put to Mr. Ullo the usual questions whether the marriage was performed by banns or license, and whether according to the rites of the church of and made the entry in conformity with the answers received.

Mr. Ullo is Maltese, expressing himself imperfectly, and may not have clearly understood what were the rites of the Church of England.

I know nothing of the word "England" having been erased, and the word "Rome" substituted in Mr. Ullo's copy of the certificate.

Mr. Ullo married one of the domestic servants of a gentleman in whose house I resided; but he never spoke to me on this subject during all the years which have elapsed since his marriage, although he had daily opportunities of doing so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 106.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, explaining your proceedings in regard to Mr. Ullo's marriage; and I am to observe to you that your statement shows that in this matter you have overlooked the terms of the Act of Parliament, which is clear and intelligible, but from which terms you

so essentially departed as to render the certificate which you gave to Mr. Ullo who invalid.

Such proceedings on the part of a Consular officer, whereby the happiness of families and the legitimacy of offspring may seriously be affected, are inexcusable; and your proceedings in marriage cases will form a subject, amongst others, for inquiry by the gentleman charged to proceed to Odessa for that purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 107.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord,

London, April 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 25th instant, and respectfully to inform your Lordship that it would be a subject of infinite pain to me if, by any act of mine, in the discharge of my Consular duties in relation to marriages, the happiness of families, and the legitimacy of offspring, could be seriously affected.

In the instance of Mr. Ullo, I have already stated to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 17th instant,* that the marriage was performed at the Roman Catholic Church of Odessa according to the rights and ceremonies of that religion professed by both parties, and I respectfully submit that no irregularity which may have occurred in the Consulate could possibly have affected the validity of such a marriage or the legitimacy of offspring.

I have already stated that I do not know how or by whom the word "England" in Mr. Ullo's copy of the Consular certificate was erased, and the word "Rome" substituted.

I retain the conviction expressed in my last letter that my clerk put down accurately Mr. Ullo's answers to the questions put to him respecting his marriage.

Mr. James Murray remarks that I have overlooked the terms of the Act of Parliament, I beg to assure your Lordship that I never was furnished with a copy of the Act, nor was my attention at any time drawn to the terms of it. If, however, my attention had been directed to the 44th Section, I should have failed to see its application in Mr. Ullo's case, not having been aware until the receipt of Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 16th instant that the certificate prepared by my clerk, and sent by me to the Registrar-General, in any respect, required alteration.

Your Lordship must be aware that, in the multiplicity of duties which devolve upon a Consul-General at so busy a port as Odessa, and with so wide a district, and so large a correspondence, it would be simply impossible for the Consul-General personally to superintend the entries of routine matters for which printed forms merely require to be filled up, and where any unintentional error may be immediately rectified without injury to anyone.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

[For further Correspondence on this subject, see the General Correspondence, commencing at page 141.]

Claim of M. Pheodorovitz to British Nationality : 1867.

No. 108.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 5.)

My Lord,

London, April 5, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the inclosed letter from Odessa.

The claim of Mr. Pheodorovitz to British nationality was carefully examined eight years ago, and a passport granted to him on a formal declaration that he was a British subject, as his father had been before him, signed by the Curator of the University of Odessa, the Mayor of Odessa, and several of the foreign Consuls. It was duly registered; and I cannot understand for what reason Mr. Pheodorovitz should now be advised by the Acting Consul-General to pay 100%.

I am informed that Mr. Stevens has removed the Consular Office, had my public and private papers sent to his hotel, ordered all my letters to be sent to him from the Post Office, re-arranged the archives, although they were carefully bound at the public expense about three years ago, and dismissed my clerks.*

I have the honour to submit that such conduct is unusual, and trust that, under these circumstances, your Lordship will not hold me responsible for any paper that may appear to be missing.

After nearly nine years' constant residence at a distant post, in the active discharge of my duties, I naturally expected that the leave of absence granted me by your Lordship might have been employed in my private affairs. Instead of which I have hardly enjoyed a single week's leisure undisturbed by official despatches on subjects which would have been instantly explained without trouble had Mr. Stevens referred directly to me. Within these last few days I have had thirty-six official questions addressed to me on subjects in no way whatsoever concerning the Acting Consul-General; and as the inclosed letter threatens a continuance of these proceedings, I venture respectfully to appeal to your Lordship to protect me against such unnecessary intrusion on the brief time left me to spend with my family.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 108.

M. Pheodorovitz to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

M. le Consul-Général,

Odessa, le 8 Mars, 1867.

LE Acting actuel du Consulat d'Angleterre à Odessa, Mr. Stevens, m'a fait venir pour me demander les documents qui prouvent mes droits de citoyen Anglais, par la lettre dont j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-joint la copie.

Je lui ai montré mon passeport qui m'a été délivré par vous en 1859, le 14 Avril, sur les documents de mon père que je vous ai présenté et que vous avez gardé dans les archives du Consulat.

Mr. Stevens, après avoir examiné mon passeport, prétend qu'il n'est pas enregistré dans les livres des passeports; c'est pourquoi il ne veut pas le reconnaître et qu'il écrirait aux autorités Russes de ne pas me considérer comme sujet Anglais, à quoi je lui ai répondu que je ne lui reconnaissais pas ce droit avant qu'il soit nommé Consul-Général à Odessa (comme il l'espérait à cette époque): ensuite il me parle d'une foule de choses qui

* See page 117.

n'avait aucun intérêt pour moi, comme par exemple qu'il a fait faire de nouveaux livres pour le Consulat à ses frais, qu'il travaille au-dessus de ses forces, que la rétribution que le Gouvernement lui donnait n'était pas suffisant, &c. Entre autres il m'a dit qu'il a fait appel à tous les Consuls d'Odessa pour rechercher ma véritable nationalité, et que aucun Consulat n'a trouvé aucune trace de mon nom dans ces archives. Je l'ai félicité de son zèle, et je l'ai prié de ne pas s'occuper de moi s'il ne veut pas que je m'occupe de lui.

Ce monsieur est très singulier. Malgré tous mes efforts pour m'entretenir catégoriquement avec lui sur mon affaire, je n'ai pu obtenir de lui aucune raisonnement logique, de sorte que lorsque je lui parlais "passeport," il me parlait "bottes," ou autre chose de ce genre. C'est un vrai supplice d'avoir affaire à un homme aussi peu intelligent et aussi bavard, de sorte que j'ai causé avec lui au moins trois heures sans être arrivé à aucun résultat, de sorte que je suis sorti de chez lui avec un affreux mal de tête.

Comme je le crois capable de me faire des désagréments sérieux, vu que je manque de patience d'écouter ses questions ridicules et dénués de bon sens, j'ai cru devoir vous écrire pour vous prier de faire le nécessaire pour me débarrasser de ce vrai cauchemar.

Je crois de mon devoir de vous dire aussi qu'il cherche des moyens pour vous desservir auprès du Gouvernement (probablement pour avoir votre place); voilà ce que j'ai pu conclure de son bavardage.

Il prétend que les documents qui vous ont servi de base pour me délivrer le passeport dont je suis porteur ne se trouvent pas au Consulat: les auriez-vous emporté, ou les aura-t-il fait disparaître? Dieu le sait.

Dernièrement il m'a fait dire par le Richard Clark que je lui écrive une lettre pour lui demander d'intervenir auprès du Foreign Office pour qu'on lui permette d'enregistrer mon passeport, ce que j'ai fait en forme que voici ci-inclus je vous envoie la copie de cette lettre. Mais je ne sais pourquoi cette lettre ne lui a pas convenu, et il l'a renvoyé sans mot dire.

Il y a quelques jours je l'ai rencontré en société, et il m'a conseillé de lui laisser écrire une lettre de ma part à un monsieur à Londres, qui moyennant 100 livres sterling trouverait dans je ne sais plus quel archive la naturalisation de mon père ou de mon grand-père, et qu'alors toutes les difficultés serait applanies; à quoi je lui ai répondu que je lui trouverai 100 personnes honorables qui témoignent qu'ils me connaissent dès mon enfance comme sujet Anglais, et 10 au moins qui ont connu mon père, et que je ne vois pas de raison de jeter par la fenêtre 100 livres sterling.

Hier il m'a fait dire que les fils d'un sujet Anglais naturalisé n'est pas un sujet Anglais. Jugez vous-même de la logique de cet homme!

Veuillez m'excuser, M. le Consul-Général, de ma longue lettre, et ne trouvez pas étonnant que je parle tant, puisque j'ai été tout ce temps en contact avec le plus grand bavard qu'on puisse trouver; et croyez moi toujours, &c.

(Signé) R. PHEODOROVITZ.

P.S.— Répondez moi, je vous supplie, au plus vite, si ce n'est que pour me tranquilliser un peu.

Inclosure 2 in No. 108.

M. Pheodorovitz to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

M. le Consul,

Odessa, le 15 Février, 1867.

LORSQUE vous m'avez appris que ma nationalité était mise en doute, ma surprise a été plus grande que je ne plus dire.

Les papiers qui sont en ma possession me paraissent, je vous l'avoue, établir mon état civil d'une manière incontestable.

Si mon passeport, qui prouve que je suis sujet Anglais, n'est pas enregistré dans les archives du Consulat, il faut l'attribuer à une circonstance dont, à aucun titre, il ne serait juste de faire retomber sur moi la responsabilité et les conséquences.

Je ne crois pas non plus qu'il soit possible de voir dans l'absence de cette formalité une intention coupable de la part de M. Grenville-Murray; car quel aurait été l'intérêt ou le motif de la conduite?

Il n'y a eu réalité que oubli ou distraction.

D'après ce que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me dire vous-même, l'enquête que vous avez fait pour rechercher ma véritable nationalité est resté sans résultat. Vous avez acquis la preuve qu'aucun Consul n'a le droit de me réclamer comme un de ses nationaux, et les documents que je vous ai présentés, tous parfaitement en règle, ne laissent, ce me

semble, aucune doute sur la légitimité de mes prétentions à l'honneur d'être sujet Anglais. Ces documents sont :—

1. Un passeport Anglais reconnu par la Russie, ainsi que le prouvent mon permis de séjour, mon diplôme de photographe de Sa Majesté l'Empereur Alexandre II, et reconnu par l'Ambassade Britannique à Constantinople.

2. Mon contrât de mariage signé par MM. le Prince Manouk-Bey, le Comte Tolstoy, M. Brunie Princesse Manouk-Bey, Miss Trovey, et légalisé par le Consul-Général d'Angleterre, qui se trouve, ainsi que nous l'avons constaté ensemble dans les archives du Consulat.

Tels sont, Monsieur, les titres que j'ai à faire valoir ; j'espère qu'ils vous paraîtront suffisant, et que vous serez assez bon pour intervenir auprès du Foreign Office, si cela est nécessaire, afin que la position irrégulière qui m'est faite par la négligence du Secrétaire de M. Grenville-Murray cesse au plus tôt, et que je rentre dans la loi commune.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) R. PHEODOROVITZ,

*Sujet Britannique, Photographe de Sa Majesté l'Empereur Alexandre II,
et de Sa Majesté le Sultan, et Chevalier.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 108.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to M. Pheodorovitz.

*British Consulate-General, Hotel de Londres, No. 10,
February 9, 1867.*

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General, hereby requests Mr. Rudolph Pheodorovitz to present for inspection his British passport, or other official document, giving or granting to Mr. Rudolph Pheodorovitz the right or title to British nationality, at any convenient moment, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. of Monday, the 12th February (new style), 1867.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 109.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and to state to you, in reply, that Mr. Pheodorovitz's complaint against Acting Consul-General Stevens will be referred to the gentleman who is about to be employed in conducting the investigation into the affairs of the Consulate-General at Odessa ; but on the face of the evidence as produced in Mr. Pheodorovitz's letter, that gentleman is not a British subject, and, if so, a British passport ought not to have been granted to him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

[For further Correspondence on this subject, see the General Correspondence commencing at page 141.]

Application of Mr. Robertson for an Amended Certificate of the Registry of his Child's Birth : 1867.

No. 110.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

Odessa, April 8, 1867.

WHILE recently at the quarries of Alexandroffka, a Scotch casseyman, named John Robertson, spoke to me about a certificate, issued to him by this office, regarding the registry of the birth of his son; and being at the time on the point of departure, I replied that he had better refer the matter to me in writing.

His letter reached me yesterday; and in doing myself the honour of laying it in translation before your Lordship, I respectfully beg to be allowed to issue, "gratis," to Mr. John Robertson, a proper certificate of the registry of the birth of his son, in lieu of that furnished to him on the occasion he mentions, which he has sent to me in his envelope, and which I also do myself the honour to inclose in original, transmitting likewise, for comparison, a fac-simile or copy of the original entries in the Register of Births of this office, of neither of which is the certificate or document issued to Robertson a true copy; while the Consul-General's signature, in the attestation attached to it, is not in the Consul-General's own handwriting, and, when compared with the entry in the book, shows the certificate to have been issued to Mr. Robertson thirty-one days before the birth was registered.

Serious in any case, such mistakes are still more so when regarding men working abroad at high wages, but at increased risk of life by exposure to climate, to make provision for their rightful heirs; and as other errors are evident among the registration of births in the Register referred to, in the conscientious discharge of my present office, I respectfully beg to suggest that such certificates issued by this office as are still in the hands of persons here, or in this vicinity, may be called in for examination and rectification.

In the Register of Deaths, the death of my own son Alexander Jules—whose death and sex my remaining son, if spared, is not unlikely to be called upon to prove some day—appeared as "Alexander Jules, daughter of the British Vice-Consul, Kherson," until recent chance enabled me to correct it; and it is impossible to find out, without inquiry, what other blunders have occurred.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Mr. Robertson to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Alexandroffka Quarries, March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1867.

IN December 1865, I had a boy registered at your Consulate; and, by mistake, he was registered "John," in lieu of "George." Having sent the certificate to Mr. Clarke, our clergyman, he was kind enough to have it altered; but I am told by the people here that it is not properly done, and therefore I beg you to send me another one. I paid the fee through Mr. Clarke, and hope it will do; and, as I am a poor man, that I may not be obliged to pay again.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Certificate issued on the 28th February, 1866, of the Registry of the Birth of George Alexander Robertson, on 31st March, 1866, at the British Consulate-General, Odessa.

Births within the District of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.

No.	When and Where Born.	Name.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Consul-General.
30	Alexandrofska, December 29, 1865.	George Alexander Robertson.	Male ...	John Robertson ...	Maria Paterson ! ...	Quarryman ...	Thos. G. Clark, Minister of the English Presbyterian Church.	1866 Jan. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.

Inclosure 3 in No. 110.

Fac-simile of Entries made at the Consulate-General at Odessa regarding the Registry of the Birth of George Alexander, son of John Robertson.

Births within the District of the British Consulate at Odessa.

No.	When and Where Born.	Name.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Consul.
30	Alexandrofska, December 29, 1865.	John Alexander Robertson.	Male ...	John Robertson ...	Maria Paterson ...	Quarryman ...	Thomas G. Clark, Minister of the English Presbyterian Church.	1866 Jan. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.
30	Alexandrofska, December 29, 1865.	George Alexander Robertson.	Male ...	John Robertson ...	Maria Paterson ...	Quarryman ...	Thomas G. Clark, Minister of the English Presbyterian Church.	Mar. 31	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.

True fac-simile or copy.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS, *Acting Consul-General.*

Remarks by Mr. Stevens.—No fee was exacted for these entries ; but the Rev. Mr. Clark paid 1 rouble (R. S. 1) for the certified copy, forming Inclosure 2 in Mr. Stevens' despatch No. 37 of 1867, to Lord Stanley, which fee was not credited to Government.

It is evident that the first entry, "No. 30," of "January 23, 1866," should be marked "cancelled." As the entries now stand, the identity of the child in question could never be proved, and is only rendered more and more intricate by the attested copy issued on the 28th of February, 1866 (Inclosure 2) ; for, by the attested copy granted on the "28th February," it appears that "George Alexander Robertson" was registered as the son of "George Robertson" on the "23rd January, 1866," while the entry in the Register shows that "George Alexander Robertson," son of "John Robertson," was registered on "March 31, 1866."

Inclosure 4 in No. 110.

Registration of Births and Deaths.

Births within the District of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.

No.	When and Where Born.	Name.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Consul.
21	*Sept. 4, 1858, Kherson.	Julia Regina Stevens	Female	Geo. Alex. Stevens	Ellen Catherine Brennan.	H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul.	Geo. Alex. Stevens, British V.-Consul, Kherson.	1864 Sept. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.
22	July 4, 1860, Kherson.	Alexander Jules Stevens	Male ...	Geo. Alex. Stevens	Ellen Catherine Brennan.	H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul.	Geo. Alex. Stevens, British V.-Consul, Kherson.	Sept. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.
23	Nor. 10, 1863, Kherson.	Henry Noel Gerald Stevens.	Male .	Geo. Alex. Stevens	Ellen Catherine Brennan.	H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul.	Geo. Alex. Stevens, British V.-Consul, Kherson.	Sept. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.
27	June 14, 1865, Kherson.	Rosina Eliza Ludmilla Stevens.	Female.	Geo. Alex. Stevens	Ellen Catherine Brennan.	H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul.	Geo. Alex. Stevens, British V.-Consul, Kherson.	1865 July 17	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.

Deaths within the District of the British Consulate-General at Odessa.

No.	When and Where Died	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Consul.
2	Mar 2, 1862, Kherson.	Alexander Jules Stevens	Male ...	20 months .	Son of the British Vice-Consul, Kherson.	Kherson ...	Geo. Alex. Stevens, British V.-Consul, Kherson.	1864 Sept. 23	T. G. Smith, for H. B. M. Consul-General.

I hereby certify the above to be true and correct copies of the originals existing in this office,
British Consulate-General,
Odessa, July 17, 1865.
(Signed) *E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,*
Consul-General.

[For further Correspondence on this subject, see the General Correspondence commencing at page 141.]

Appointment of Mr. Wilkins to inquire into Complaints made
against Mr. Grenville-Murray at Odessa : 1867.

No. 111.

Mr. James Murray to Consul Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that his Lordship is desirous of employing you in a matter relating to Consular proceedings at Odessa, which require investigation on the spot by an officer qualified from his legal and Consular knowledge for such an important task ; and his Lordship would be glad that you should attend at this office some time in the course of the ensuing week, in order to receive his instructions for your guidance.

You will be placed on full salary from the date of your presenting yourself here, until your return from Odessa ; and your expenses incident to this service will be paid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 112.

Consul Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 12.)

My Lord,

London, April 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 6th instant, informing me that your Lordship is desirous of employing me in a matter relating to Consular proceedings at Odessa, and to inform your Lordship that I have this day presented myself at the Foreign Office to receive instructions for my guidance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

No. 113.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that Mr. John Edward Wilkins has been selected to make inquiry on the spot at Odessa into the proceedings which have formed the subject of correspondence between you and this office, and that Mr. Wilkins will start for his destination in the course of a few days.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

* See also No. 95.

No. 114.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that, in consequence of the various allegations which have been made in your correspondence, reflecting upon the proceedings of Mr. Grenville-Murray, as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, his Lordship has decided to send to that port a gentleman competent to the task of investigating all matters connected with the administration of business at that Consulate.

Mr. John Edward Wilkins, who will deliver this letter to you, is the gentleman selected for this service, and I am to instruct you to afford to him whatever assistance he may require, and to give him free access to the Consulate and to its archives.

Mr. Grenville-Murray has been informed that this inquiry is about to be made, but that he will not be allowed to resume his functions as Consul-General until Lord Stanley shall have been satisfied with the result of Mr Wilkins' investigation.

Permission has, however, been given to him to be present at Odessa during Mr. Wilkins' stay here.

Meanwhile Lord Stanley desires that you will remain in charge of the Consulate as Acting Consul-General.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 115.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1867.

IN my despatch of the 6th instant I informed you that Lord Stanley was desirous of availing himself of your services for an inquiry which his Lordship deems it necessary to institute into certain proceedings at the British Consulate at Odessa.

In accordance with his Lordship's orders all papers relating to those proceedings, in so far as they have been reported to this office, have been placed before you. You will have observed therefrom that Mr. Grenville-Murray was appointed Consul-General at Odessa in July 1858; that he entered upon his duties on the 26th of September, 1858, and that he remained there, with the exception of three months in 1861, until the 1st of November, 1866, when he left Odessa on leave of absence. During the intervening period various complaints affecting Mr. G. Murray's official conduct have been made to this Office, but it may not be necessary that you should enter into any matters which were brought before the Foreign Office previously to Mr. Grenville-Murray's leaving Odessa in November last,* although the knowledge of these may be useful to you on your inquiries into other matters, or in the event of anything connected with them being introduced locally to your notice.

The cases to which your special inquiry should be directed are those to which Lord Stanley's attention has particularly been called by Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens since he assumed charge of the Consulate at Odessa.

They comprise—

1. A question arising out of an application which Mr. Stevens expected to receive from certain Greek subjects, named Vucina, for protection as British subjects, as to the issue of passports by Mr. Grenville-Murray to persons not being entitled to them.†

2. A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Charlton, agent at Odessa for Messrs. Furness and Co., contractors for public works at that place, for a box of papers deposited by him for safe custody at the Consulate) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in removing from the Consulate, and of making over to a person in England, without the knowledge or consent of the depositor, important documents deposited with him in his official capacity.‡

3. A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Messrs. F. T. di Giacomo, of Berdiansk, for an amended certificate empowering a Mrs. Tagliaferro to sell certain property at that place) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in issuing a certificate for which there does not appear to be any legal authority, and which is informal, and was of no value for the purpose for which it was apparently intended.§

4. A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Ullo, a Maltese, for information as to the validity of a marriage certificate given to him by

* Pages 1 to 69.

† Page 70.

‡ Page 97.

§ Page 108.

Mr. Grenville-Murray) as to the legality of Mr. G. Murray's proceedings in cases of marriages of British subjects at Odessa.*

5. A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Robertson for an amended certificate of the registry of the birth of a child) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings, under the instructions issued from this office, in registering births and deaths, and in issuing certificates of such registry.†

6. A question (arising out of the circumstances brought to light by the above-mentioned cases) as to levy of the fees at the Consulate. The fees are the property of Her Majesty's Government, and Consular officers charged with the duty of levying this revenue are not empowered to dispense with the payment of them, except under express instructions from the Secretary of State.

You will have seen from the correspondence that Mr. Grenville-Murray's explanations, so far as they have hitherto been given, have been considered by Lord Stanley, after consultation with the Law Adviser of the Crown, to be unsatisfactory and evasive; and the question hence arises whether Mr. Grenville-Murray has or has not really acted improperly, and if he has, whether such improper conduct was the result of mere negligence or otherwise. On the face of the evidence, as placed before Lord Stanley, statements have been made reflecting seriously on the character of an officer holding Her Majesty's Commission. The interests of the public service require that no doubts should be allowed to exist as to whether such officer has acted in a manner unbecoming his position, or in violation of his duty to the Crown; but in order to clear up doubts it will be needful that all investigations into facts and occurrences should be conducted with the utmost impartiality. Lord Stanley feels confident that the inquiry with which you are charged will be so conducted by you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 116.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1867.

IN addition to the inquiry which you are instructed to make into certain proceedings at the British Consulate at Odessa, I am directed by Lord Stanley to state that his Lordship would wish you to report upon the manner in which British Consular business generally has been conducted at that port. This report should include the questions of the locality and rent of the office; the ordinary amount of labour; the number of persons employed in it; the attendance given by the Consul-General; and the appropriation of the allowance given of 300*l.* a-year paid to Mr. Grenville-Murray for office expenses.

Amongst other matters you will look into the question of the signatures of official documents, there being evidence that the name of the Consul-General has been signed by a clerk and not by himself, and that registrations and other acts have been performed by a clerk instead of by the Consul-General.

Mr. Grenville-Murray has been informed that you have been selected to make an investigation on the spot into his proceedings, and that he will be at liberty, if he so thinks proper, to be at Odessa during such inquiry; but he has also been told that he cannot be allowed to resume his duties as Consul-General until Lord Stanley is satisfied that he can properly sanction such resumption.

While, therefore, Mr. Grenville-Murray will not hold any official position at Odessa, you will give him every opportunity of furnishing evidence in defence of his conduct.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 117.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you herewith a letter addressed to Mr. Stevens, the Acting British Consul-General at Odessa,‡ informing him of the object

of your visit to that port, and instructing him to render you any assistance that you may require at his hands, and to give you free access to the Consulate and to its archives.

I also transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch which Lord Stanley addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, desiring him to request the Russian Government to instruct their authorities at Odessa to afford you any facilities they may be able to give you in the prosecution of the business on which you are engaged.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 118.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord,

London, April 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 26th instant, informing me that Mr. John Edward Wilkins has been selected to make inquiry on the spot, at Odessa, into the proceedings which have formed the subject of correspondence between me and your Lordship's office.

I believe that the gentleman named was appointed Consul at Chicago in 1855, and I am not aware that he has seen any other service. I mean no disrespect to Mr. Wilkins in saying that he is my junior both in length of service and official rank, and has never been employed in Russia or had any experience there; and I must earnestly and respectfully protest against an investigation so conducted, and appeal to your Lordship that if any inquiry into my conduct is to be instituted it may be conducted in London, where all the witnesses and documents by which it can be properly explained are to be found, and by persons accustomed to the investigation of facts with judicial solemnity and familiar with the rules of evidence.⁹

I have, &c
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

[From this date, the Correspondence relating to the various Cases of Complaint against Mr. Grenville-Murray are arranged in order of date when the several letters were received at and sent from the Foreign Office.]

General Correspondence.

No. 119.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 2.)

My Lord,

Odessa, April 23, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 10th instant,* transmitting to me, with reference to my Report of the 22nd March,† copy of the Act of Parliament passed on the 29th ultimo, 30 Vict., cap. 2, which legalizes all marriages solemnized at Odessa,‡ previously to the passing thereof, by or in the presence of Mr. Grenville-Murray (both or one of the parties to such marriage being subjects, or a subject, of Great Britain), notwithstanding any non-compliance with the provisions of the Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

It is impossible for me to describe to your Lordship the feeling of satisfaction which pervades the British community since reading in the London newspapers of this act of justice done to it by Her Majesty's Government, and which, as far as I can judge, legalizes all the marriages performed by Mr. Grenville-Murray, though doubts seem still to hover around two; the first, a marriage solemnized by Mr. G. Murray where neither of the parties are British subjects, unless taken for granted that the gentleman concerned is to be considered as such, on the mere issue to him of a non-recorded passport by Mr. Grenville-Murray; the second, the marriage of a Mr. Laney on the 14th September, 1865, who was married, as he informs me, at the Consulate, during Mr. Grenville-Murray's absence from town, by the Rev. Mr. Clark, and the record of whose marriage is not signed by the Consul-General—an omission to which the Registrar-General called attention by a despatch to this office dated 19th December, 1866—as your Lordship will observe by the copy which I have the honour to inclose, and which, on the earnest entreaty of Mr. Laney, “to put him in order,” I transmit, hoping to be instructed as to the opinion which I am to offer to Mr. Laney, to set him at rest as regards the doubts entertained as to the sufficiency of the “Odessa Marriage Act of 1867,” to legalize his marriage, which was not performed either by or in the presence of Mr. Grenville-Murray, who, Mr. Laney also informs me, authorized a Hebrew merchant, Mr. Simon Horowitz, agent for Lloyd's, and unpaid Danish Consul in this town, to be present at the ceremony; but, as your Lordship will observe, Mr. Horowitz merely signed the register as a witness, and not as deputed by or acting for Mr. Grenville-Murray.

The desire to clear up as much as possible the affairs of this Consulate during my temporary charge of it, and to inspire its clients with that degree of confidence in it which every British subject has a right to expect to feel in dealing with Her Majesty's Agents abroad, where they are looked upon as the natural friends and advisers of their countrymen, will, I hope, prove a sufficient apology for my again reverting to the question; seizing this opportunity to respectfully but solemnly assure your Lordship that, neither in this, the subject of the Odessa marriages, or any other recent reference made to the Foreign Office regarding the errors of this Consulate-General, am I actuated by any other spirit or motive than those of a conscientious and just discharge of duty, the upholding of the credit of the service, which I chose as a profession from my youth, and the good name and influence of the Government which I have the honour to serve, the interests and welfare of whose subjects I have ever felt it a duty to promote and defend.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

* No. 101.

† No. 100.

‡ See page 69.

Inclosure in No. 119.

Copy of Registration of Mr. Laney's Marriage.

1865.

Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
19	1865 Sept. 14	William Laney ..	36	Bachelor ..	Miller ..	Odessa .	George Laney .	Labourer.
		Sarah Cramer ..	25	Spinster ..	Innkeeper ..	Odessa .	John Cramer .	Saddler.

Married in the British Consulate-General, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Churches of England and Scotland, by banns, by me,

(Signed) THOS. G. CLARK.

This marriage was solemnized between us :

(Signed) WILLIAM LANEY.
SARAH CRAMER.

In the presence of us :

(Signed) SIMON HOROWITZ.
THOMAS WALTON.
W. F. LYONS.
L. NOONAN.
ANN WALTON.

No. 120.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inclose two despatches from Mr. Grenville-Murray,* containing further explanations and statements regarding the cases of Mr. Ullo's marriage certificate and of Madame Tagliaferro.

You will take these despatches into your consideration, together with those already sent to you relating to these subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 121.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your three letters of the 30th ultimo.

As regards your protest against the appointment of Mr. Wilkins to inquire, on the spot, into the various matters which you have been called upon to explain, I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that he must decline to alter the decision at which he has arrived.

Your further statements and explanations regarding the cases of Madame Tagliaferro and Mr. Ullo's marriage certificate will be communicated to Mr. Wilkins, who has already left for Odessa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 27.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, May 22, 1867.

M. DE WESTMANN, the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, spoke to me some days ago of a Memorial addressed by some British subjects at Odessa to the Governor-General, requesting him to use every means in his power to protect them "from the calamity" of Mr. Consul-General Murray's return to Odessa in that capacity.*

M. de Westmann said that Prince Gortchakoff felt that the British subjects in question had erred in addressing themselves to a Russian authority instead of to your Lordship or to myself, if they had any complaints to make against Mr. Murray, but his Excellency thought that, considering my friendly relations with the Russian Foreign Office, I might not object to receive the Memorial as a strictly private communication. I said that the view taken by Prince Gortchakoff as to the impropriety of the course followed by the Memorialists was certainly correct, and General Kotzebue, instead of accepting it and sending it to St. Petersburg, should have informed the British subjects who presented it to him that Her Majesty's Government had charged a competent officer to proceed to Odessa to inquire into the validity and justice of the complaints made against Mr. Consul-General Murray; and that he had been requested to afford that officer every possible facility for taking evidence respecting them. I said that this course had better still be recommended to the adoption of General Kotzebue, and if it were true, as the Memorialists supposed, that Mr. Consul-General Murray was expected at Odessa, he was probably coming in order to be on the spot while the inquiry into his conduct was being carried on.

With respect to my receiving the Memorial, I said, as it was here, I had no objection that it should be communicated to me privately, and M. de Westmann sent it to me next day in a private letter. However, as it is merely signed by five persons, and contains no specific charge against Mr. Murray, and only alleges "that his unfaithful administration in every department of his duties is matter of public notoriety," I did not see that any object could be obtained by forwarding a copy of it to your Lordship: and I have therefore returned it to M. de Westmann, to whom I said, at the same time, I did not think it expedient for me to make use of it in my correspondence with your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

Odessa, May 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I received Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 2nd instant and the other papers forwarded to me at the British Embassy in Constantinople on Saturday the 11th instant, and that by the first opportunity I reached Odessa on Thursday, the 16th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for your information (but to be returned), a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg,† upon the subject of a memorial against Mr. Grenville-Murray, which has been addressed by certain British subjects to the Governor-General of Odessa.

* See also No. 36.

† No. 122.

You will ascertain, if possible, the grounds upon which such a representation has been made, bearing in mind, however, that if British subjects have any complaints to make against Mr. Grenville-Murray, they are bound to come forward openly and to declare and prove their case. If they do not, they cannot expect that attention will be given to their statements.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 125.

Mr. James Murray to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 4, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that he has consulted the Law Officers of the Crown upon your despatch of the 23rd April,* in which a question is raised as to the legality of a marriage performed at the British Consulate at Odessa in September 1865, between Mr. Wm. Laney and Miss Sarah Cramer.

Lord Stanley is advised that considerable doubt exists as to the validity of that marriage, and Mr. Wilkins will be instructed to investigate the matter; but I am to instruct you to suggest to Mr. Laney, for his consideration, whether meanwhile it might not be prudent for him at once to be married again in strict conformity with the provisions of the 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68; and in such case you are at liberty to waive the payment of the fees prescribed by the Act.

The marriage, as you are aware, may be solemnized, under the 9th section of the Act without religious ceremony, by you as the Consular officer empowered under the 19th section to act in the absence of Mr. Grenville-Murray.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 126.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 4, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to refer you to a despatch dated the 23rd of April,* which has been addressed to his Lordship by Mr. Stevens, in regard to the legality of a marriage purported to have been celebrated at Odessa in September 1865, between Mr. Wm. Laney and Miss Sarah Cramer.

The Law Officers of the Crown, to whom Mr. Stevens' despatch has been referred, have expressed their apprehension that this marriage, if not legal under the Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, will not be validated by the recent Act of 30 Vict., cap. 2.

It will be necessary, therefore, that you should make a strict investigation into this case, and that you should report specially thereon.

The Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, requires that marriages shall be solemnized "at the British Consulate," by the Consul, or by any other person "in his presence;" and if the Consul should be absent, marriages may be solemnized "by any person duly authorized to act in the absence of such Consul."

Mr. Laney's marriage certainly appears to have been solemnized in the place purporting to be the British Consulate, but there is not sufficient evidence to show that a duly authorized Consular Officer was present.

Mr. Stevens says that Mr. Grenville-Murray authorized a Mr. Simon Horowitz to be present at the ceremony, but he seems to have signed the certificate of marriage only as a witness, and there is no proof that he was appointed to act in the absence of the Consul-General. If not, the provisions of the Act of Parliament would not seem to have been complied with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 17.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 8, 1867.

FOR your Lordship's information, and in justice to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, I have the honour to inclose an extract from a despatch of Mr. Grenville-Murray to your Lordship of 8th April last in his handwriting now lying before me, by which your Lordship may have been laid under the misapprehension that Mr. Grenville-Murray, on leaving Odessa in November last, left a public office which has been removed, and clerks who have been dismissed by Mr. Stevens.

To remove any such misapprehension, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note I wrote this morning to Mr. Perkins, who was left in charge by Mr. Murray in November last and that gentleman's reply, by which it appears there was no public office and no clerk when Mr. Stevens took charge of the Consulate-General in December last.

There being no public office for the Consulate, Mr. Stevens made an inventory of and received the archives from Mr. Perkins in the presence of a gentleman of business experience, took them from Mr. Perkins' house to his own hotel, in which at that time he had a separate room for an office, and arranged them.

I should state that the despatch of April 5th referred to in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of the 8th April is not among the papers in my possession, and as from the form of the letter "s" in the word "clerks" in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of the 8th April* in my possession, it is possible it may have been inadvertently formed in the hurry of making the interlineation. I would respectfully suggest a reference to the despatch of the 5th April.†

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 127.

Mr. Grenville-Murray, to Lord Stanley.

(Extract.)

London, April 8, 1867.

I EXPLAINED in my covering despatch the claims of Mr. Pheodorovitz to British nationality, and stated that, having been informed Mr. Stevens had removed the Consulate to his hotel, taken all my public and private papers to his rooms, and re-arranged the archives, and dismissed my clerks.‡

I respectfully trusted under such unusual circumstances, I should not be held responsible for any paper that might appear to be missing.

Inclosure 2 in No. 127.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. Perkins.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, June 8, 1867.

WILL you be kind enough to inform me, for the purpose of making my Report to Lord Stanley, under instructions received from his Lordship, which I have read to you, where the office of the British Consulate-General at Odessa was between the 1st April, 1866, and 1st November, 1866, the day you were placed in charge by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and who were the clerks employed by Mr. Consul-General Murray during that period? Also where the office was during the period you were in charge of the Consulate and at the time you handed over the archives to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens? And who were the clerks, or who was the clerk, attached to the Consulate in the employ and pay of Mr. Consul-General Murray at the time you handed over the charge of the Consulate to Mr. Stevens?

I explained to you yesterday the necessity for my troubling you on this subject, and I shall feel much obliged to you if you will favour me with an early reply.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

* See No. 96, page 117.

† See No. 108.

‡ The word is "clerks."

Inclosure 3 in No. 127.

Mr. Perkins to Mr. Wilkins.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, June 8, 1867.

IN reply to your note of this day, I beg to state that the office of the British Consulate-General was at my house, from 1st April to the 1st November, 1866; and that I was attending the Consular business. During that period there was no clerk.

During the period I was acting for the Consul-General, after the absence of Mr. Consul-General Murray, the office continued to be at my house, and at that period too, I was alone in discharging the Consular duties.

Besides myself, there was no one attending the Consulate when the archives were delivered to Mr. Stevens.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

No. 128.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 19, 1867.

IN your letter to Lord Stanley of the 5th of April last,* you made the following statement:—

“I am informed that Mr. Stevens has removed the Consular office, had my public and private papers sent to his hotel, ordered all my letters to be sent to him from the Post Office, rearranged the archives, although they were carefully bound at the public expense about three years ago, and dismissed my clerks.”

Upon receiving that statement, Lord Stanley caused inquiry to be made where your Consular office was, and who were your clerks; and his Lordship received the following evidence as given in writing by Mr. Perkins:—

“The office of the British Consulate-General was at my house from 1st April to the 1st November, 1866; and I was attending the Consular business. During that period there was no clerk. During the period I was acting for the Consul-General, after the absence of Mr. Consul-General Murray, the office continued to be at my house, and at that period too, I was alone in discharging the Consular duties. Besides myself there was no one attending the Consulate when the archives were delivered to Mr. Stevens.”

Lord Stanley will allow you to make any observations that you may wish to offer on this evidence, which is directly contradictory to your statement.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 129.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt last evening of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of the 31st ultimo, referring to a Memorial against Mr. Grenville-Murray, presented by certain British subjects to the Governor-General of Odessa.†

For your Lordship's information I now have the honour to state the following facts:—

On my arrival at Odessa, General de Kotzebue, the Governor-General of Southern Russia, was absent, and did not return for several days. Immediately on his arrival, I called on him and at the same time handed him a letter, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose. His Excellency replied the same day by the letter I also inclose, and also called on me at my hotel. Between the hour of my calling on his Excellency and his visiting me, he sent for Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, and told him that, subsequently to my call upon him, he had received from St. Petersburg the inclosed Memorial which his Excellency admitted to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, he had improperly received from the British subjects, begging Mr. Stevens to return it to them. Some days afterwards I was asked if I would receive this same Memorial. I said that I was sent here expressly

* No. 108.

† See No. 122.

for the purpose of publicly receiving any information respecting the course which had been pursued by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and that I should be happy to see any British subjects who had anything to say on the subject.

On the 6th instant, this Memorial was presented to me with the accompanying letter by the persons who signed it. Two were absent at the presentation, but each subsequently expressed his regret at not being present. On receiving it, I said it was a matter of regret to me that they had found themselves under the necessity of presenting such a Memorial to the Russian authorities, remarking that in taking such a course they appeared to be casting reflections on their own Government.

All intention of disrespect was immediately disclaimed, and it was added that it was their wish to have sent a Memorial to your Lordship through Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, who, from motives of delicacy refused to receive it.

I said I would receive the Memorial, and embody it in my Report, at the same time expressing a hope that I should receive practical co-operation from the British subjects in Odessa in the discharge of my duties.

This I am receiving.

The signers are intelligent and respectable men.

I will not fail to communicate to them your Lordship's sense of their duty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 129.

Mr. Wilkins to Governor-General Kotzebue.

Your Excellency,

Odessa, May 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that in pursuance of instructions I received from Lord Stanley I have come to Odessa, to conduct an inquiry which his Lordship has deemed it necessary to institute into certain proceedings at this Consulate.

I have been informed that Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg has been made acquainted with the object of my mission, and that he has been told that Her Majesty's Government would be glad that my proceedings should be facilitated as far as they properly can be by the Russian authorities. I have the honour, for your Excellency's information, to state that Mr. Consul-General Murray has been informed that I have been selected to make an investigation on the spot into his proceedings, and that he will be at liberty, if he so thinks proper, to be at Odessa during the inquiry.

Permit me to express a hope that I shall receive the co-operation of your Excellency, and all in authority under you, in the conduct of my investigations with that impartiality which is enjoined upon me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 129.

Governor-General Kotzebue to Mr. Wilkins.

Monsieur,

Odessa, le $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁵/₇ Mai, 1867.

J'AI déjà été précédemment informé par le Ministère Impérial de votre arrivée à Odessa, ainsi que de la mission qui vous a été confiée par son Excellence Lord Stanley.

Veillez recevoir l'espérance, Monsieur, que rien ne sera négligé pour vous faciliter l'accomplissement de votre tâche ; et agréez, &c,

(Signé)

T. KOTZEBUE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 129.

Memorial addressed by British Subjects to Governor-General Kotzebue.

M. le Gouverneur,

Odessa, le 21 Avril, 1867.

LE bruit se répand que M. Grenville-Murray revient à Odessa pour reprendre le poste de Consul-Général, qu'il y occupait précédemment. Nous croyons de notre devoir de

porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence que nous sommes intimement persuadés que les intérêts des Anglais résidant dans cette ville en souffriraient si cette nouvelle était fondée.

Il ne serait pas convenable de passer en revue les procédés de M. Murray pendant qu'il a exercé les fonctions de Consul à Odessa ; son administration déloyale est de notoriété publique.

Par considération pour nos compatriotes et pour nous-mêmes, nous venons soumettre notre protestation à votre Excellence, et nous la prions d'employer gracieusement tous les moyens en son pouvoir pour nous préserver d'un tel déshonneur. Si M. Murray revient nous nous dégageons de toute responsabilité, n'ayant pas contribué à son retour.

Les privilèges dont nous jouissons sous l'administration libérale du Gouvernement Impérial, et l'extrême bienveillance de votre Excellence envers nous, nous encourageant à la prier de vouloir bien intercéder pour nous dans cette affaire si sérieuse et de la plus haute importance.

Nous prions, &c.
(Signé) F. H. MASSEY.
JAMES ANDERSON.
WM. CHARLTON.
C. WALKINSHAW.
FRANCIS DOWLING.

(Translation.)

May it please your Excellency,

Odessa, April 21, 1867.

AS reports exist that Mr. Grenville-Murray is returning in his former capacity as British Consul-General to Odessa, we feel it to be our duty to represent to your Excellency our earnest persuasion of the injury which would thereby result to British interests.

It is not expedient to enter into details concerning the career of that gentleman since his appointment to this city ; but his unfaithful administration in every department of his duties is matter of public notoriety.

For this reason, on behalf of ourselves and countrymen, we cannot refrain from bearing our protest to your Excellency against Mr. Murray's resumption of office, and entreating that your Excellency will graciously use every means in your power to protect us from so great a calamity. In every case, should he be permitted to return, we take the liberty of disclaiming all responsibility.

The high estimation in which, in common with others, we hold your Excellency, and the increasing privileges which we enjoy under the liberal administration of the Imperial Government, embolden us to make this appeal to your Excellency in this grave and important matter.

With profound respect, we have, &c.
(Signed) F. H. MASSEY.
JAMES ANDERSON.
WM. CHARLTON.
C. WALKINSHAW.
FRANCIS DOWLING.

Inclosure 4 in No. 129.

Messrs. Cook, Dowling, and others to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Odessa, May 25, 1867.

WE, the Undersigned, representing the British community at Odessa, beg respectfully to place before you a document addressed by us to his Excellency the Governor-General of South Russia, on learning, some five weeks ago, that Mr. Grenville-Murray would probably return to Odessa to resume his post as Consul-General.

The document, on being presented to General de Kotzebue, was forwarded by him to the Minister of the Interior, who returned it to the Governor-General with the message that the proper course to pursue was to present it to the British Government through our own Representative.

The Undersigned, understanding that you have arrived in this city to investigate the proceedings of the Consulate during Mr. Murray's occupation of office, beg respectfully to place the document in your hands, in the fervent hope that the interests of the British

community, marred for many years by the presence of an incompetent officer, may no longer suffer.

We have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN COOK.
FRANCIS DOWLING.
JAMES ANDERSON.
WILLIAM CHARLTON.
FREDERICK H. MASSEY.
C. WALKINSHAW.

No. 130.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, June 20, 1867.

ASCERTAIN whether Perkins received from Grenville-Murray, rent for Consulate and remuneration for services.

No. 131.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord,

London, June 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 19th instant,* and, in reply, to state to your Lordship that the passage quoted by him from my letter to your Lordship of the 5th of April last is, in every particular, strictly accurate.

Mr. Thomas George Smith, who is now Vice-Consul in Syria, was my principal clerk for more than five years. When he left my service, which was about the 1st of April, 1866, Mr. Perkins was good enough to accept the appointment as his successor, and I removed the office of the British Consulate-General to his house; and from that time until I left Odessa, on the 1st of November, Mr. Perkins and his son assisted me in the discharge of my official duties.

When I left Odessa, I appointed Mr. Perkins, subject to your Lordship's approval, Acting Consul-General during my absence. I was subsequently informed by Mr. Perkins that he had been superseded by Mr. Stevens, who had removed the Consular offices, had had my public and private papers sent to his hotel, had ordered all my letters to be sent to him from the post-office, and had prepared new registers, &c.; and that he (Mr. Perkins) had nothing more to do with the Consulate.

A gentleman in the position of Mr. Perkins probably felt, when interrogated by Mr. Wilkins, some dislike to describing himself and his son as my clerks; but the fact, nevertheless, was so: and, as regards Mr. Perkins himself, he has, I am informed, been paid for the two months during which he was Acting Consul-General on a scale based on the assumption that he had previously been acting as my salaried clerk and received 25*l.* (say twenty-five pounds) for two months' services.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 132.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 21.)

(Telegraphic.)

Odessa, June 21, 1867.

PERKINS received no rent for Consulate. Grenville-Murray paid him 80*l.* per annum up to 1st November last.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 12, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to make application to your Lordship for the office allowance due to this Consulate-General from the 22nd of December last to the 31st March, and that which may become due, while I continue in temporary charge of this Consulate.

I beg most solemnly to assure your Lordship that, on taking charge, I found no office except that in Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins' dining-room, in a house behind the bazaar, difficult to reach in wet weather, and most unsuited for a public office; the office furniture consisted of a dining table, side-board, a couch, and some chairs belonging to Mr. Perkins, with three uncovered deal wine cases for the archives; such stationery as I received from Mr. Perkins he sold to me, as may be observed by the account which I have the honour to inclose, and I was obliged to purchase elsewhere every other requisite, from the archive-press to the inkstand, laying out upwards of 60*l.*, besides paying freight and expenses on my escutcheon, desk, &c., brought from my office at Nicolaieff, before I succeeded in placing matters on a respectable footing.

On removing the archives from Mr. Perkins' house, unable in the depth of winter to find a more appropriate locality, I established an office, apart from my own very small apartment, at the Hotel de Londres; but, unable at the end of March to continue to pay the separate rent, I was compelled to remove it to my sitting-room, the restricted dimensions of which, on Mr. Wilkins' arrival, necessitated its transfer to more appropriate quarters at a cost of 11*l.* per month.

Mr. Perkins had no assistant, and could not point out any person to aid me, repudiating with indignation my idea that he was Mr. Grenville-Murray's clerk, and refusing me the least satisfaction as to the pecuniary arrangements between them; and I have only succeeded in discharging the duties of the post, in all their detail, by working sixteen to eighteen hours daily, and, notwithstanding, I have been reluctantly compelled to neglect the Commercial Reports and Returns usually transmitted to England, and important local questions regarding British interests, which require study and quiet hours for discussion with the Consuls of other Powers and the chief authorities.

It may be well to remark that the office allowance of 12*l.* 10*s.* per quarter, issued to me as Vice-Consul at Nicolaieff, is entirely absorbed by my rent there of 54*l.* per annum, and that, besides the duties of this office, I am daily applied to by the British ship-masters there for assistance, which, where possible, I have invariably granted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

Inclosure in No. 133.

G. A. Stevens, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Odessa.

ACCOUNT of Stationery delivered, belonging to E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, now in London on leave of absence.

						£	s.	d.
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ream foolscap paper	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	9
$\frac{1}{2}$ ditto, note size	..	..	..	..	..	0	7	0
100 envelopes, letter size	..	..	..	..	..	0	1	6
370 ditto, note ditto	..	..	..	..	..	0	4	6
136 ditto, official ditto	..	..	..	..	..	0	2	9
						2	19	6

Odessa, January $\frac{16}{28}$, 1867.

Per acquit.

(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

No. 134.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 26, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, reporting upon the state of the Consular Office at Odessa; and his Lordship

having referred to Mr. Grenville-Murray for an explanation, in reply to Mr. Perkins' assertions, has received from the Consul-General a letter, of which a copy is inclosed,* but the contents of which are directly at variance with Mr. Perkins' statements.

It will now be necessary that you should clearly ascertain which statement is correct, and that your Report on the various matters which you are looking into should include this special subject of the relative assertions of Mr. Grenville-Murray and of Mr. Perkins, and should specify the exact amount paid to and received by Mr. Perkins for rent of office and clerical assistance.

You will also show how other foreign Consulates are conducted at Odessa, and you will compare with them the manner in which the British Consulate was kept up previously to Mr. Stevens' arrival.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 135.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 27, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, and to state to you that the contents thereof are so much at variance with Mr. Perkins' declaration that his Lordship has thought it necessary to send your letter to Odessa, in order that the relative statements may be inquired into.

Meanwhile, as the sum allowed by Her Majesty's Government for office expenses is indispensably required for the maintenance of the Consulate, Lord Stanley will give directions that the sum due for the quarter ending on the 30th instant shall be applied directly towards that object.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 136.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter written by me to the Mr. Simon Horowitz referred to in your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, instructing me to report specially on the marriage of William Laney.

I inclose Mr. Horowitz's reply, in which he says he has received a letter from Mr. W. Laney, from which he learns that I have censured his conduct without affording him an opportunity for explanation.

Mr. Horowitz informs me he deems it his duty to lay the affair before the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of my reply, which I trust will meet your Lordship's approval.

I have never seen Mr. Laney, and I am perfectly at a loss to conceive how I have justly come under Mr. Horowitz's displeasure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure I in No. 136.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. Horowitz.

Sir,

Odessa, June $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

WHEN you did me the honour of calling on me, I availed myself of the opportunity of explaining the nature of my Mission to Odessa.

I have just received further instructions to make a special report on the circumstances connected with the marriage of one William Laney with one Sarah Cramer, which marriage appears to have been solemnized in your presence.

In December last the Registrar-General in London directed attention to the fact of the omission of the signature, and description of the Consul-General in the official register of this marriage.

I am now directed to ascertain if William Laney's marriage with Sarah Cramer on 14th September, 1865, was solemnized at the British Consulate in the presence of a duly authorized person, in compliance with the English Act of Parliament 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68. Will you kindly inform me whether the marriage was solemnized at the British Consulate, and whether you were present merely as a witness, or whether you attended to represent Mr. Grenville-Murray in his official character, for the purpose of solemnizing this marriage, and if so, by what warrant Mr. Grenville-Murray authorized you so to act for him.

I should also be glad to hear whether you know any reason which made it impossible for Mr. Grenville-Murray himself to be present.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 136.

Mr. Horowitz to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Odessa, June 7th, 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and to inform you, that after having received another letter on the same subject from Mr. W. Laney, from which I learn that you thought proper to censure my conduct long before you had offered me an opportunity for explanation, I deem it my duty to lay this affair before the Foreign Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. HOROWITZ.

Inclosure 3 in No. 136.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. Horowitz.

Sir,

Odessa, June 7th, 1867.

I WILL forward your letter of this date to Lord Stanley.

Your, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

No. 137.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 19th instant on the 20th instant:—

"Ascertain whether Perkins received from Grenville-Murray, rent for Consulate and remuneration for services."

I replied the same day, "Perkins received no rent for Consulate. Grenville-Murray paid him 80*l.* per annum up to 1st November last."

I have the honour to inclose a copy of my note to Mr. Perkins, his reply, and a copy of a note to him asking if I understood him rightly. Mr. Perkins has more than once told me that he never will state anything but what is true, but that he never will answer any questions which he does not choose to answer, or which he thinks may affect him.

Therefore, as in his note he merely stated what remuneration he received up to the 1st of November, without referring to any arrangements then made, I sent him my second note which he yesterday said contained a correct statement of facts.

Since the 1st of November he has never received any recompense or reimbursement except the 25*l.* paid him by Mr. Stevens under your Lordship's instructions in the despatch of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray of the 5th of March last. Mr. Perkins, in my interview with him yesterday, said that in justice to Mr. Grenville-Murray, he ought to say that at the time he first agreed to manage the Consular business for Mr. Grenville-Murray, after Mr. Smith's departure in March 1866, Mr. Grenville-Murray told him to get a new office, as the term of the tenancy of the old one was just expiring; but finding it difficult to get an office, Mr. Murray permitted him to take the archives to his own house, which he did,

and that, with the exception of what he called the current archives, meaning those in daily use, these remained in the boxes in which they were taken to his house until Mr. Stevens received them from him in December last.

Mr. Perkins is a nervous old man with strong prejudices and false pride, much chagrined at the part he has played in connection with this Consulate-General, and by no means a satisfactory witness.

Although he repudiates with indignation the idea that he ever was a clerk of Mr. Grenville-Murray, he told me on my explaining why I put this question to him, namely, what Mr. Grenville-Murray had said about clerks, that he cannot say whether Mr. Grenville-Murray called him his clerk or not, and that he should say from the terms of Mr. Stevens' letter to him on coming to take the archives, that Mr. Stevens had dismissed him.

This technical view is so inconsistent with all surrounding circumstances that I cannot feel it is entirely unprejudiced.

Mr. Perkins further stated that he thought Mr. Stevens should have left the archives where they were, and have transacted the business of the Consulate whilst temporarily in charge at Mr. Perkins' house.

I told Mr. Perkins that I could not see in what way Mr. Stevens could have acted differently to what he did, and that subsequent events had shown that Mr. Stevens had not taken too great precautions in taking charge of the archives and the business of the Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 137.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. Perkins.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, June $\frac{8}{20}$, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to ascertain whether you ever received from Mr. Grenville-Murray rent for the Consulate and remuneration for your services. Will you kindly inform me on this subject?

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 137.

Mr. Perkins to Mr. Wilkins.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, June $\frac{8}{20}$, 1867.

IN reply to your note of this day I beg to state that I received no rent for the Consulate, and that my remuneration for my services up to 1st November, 1866, was at the rate of 80*l.* per annum, the salary formerly paid to the Vice-Consul, and that it was regularly paid to me by Mr. Consul-General Murray at each quarter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 137.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. Perkins.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, June $\frac{8}{20}$, 1867.

I HAVE to thank you for your prompt reply to my note of this date, from which I gather that you received 80*l.* per annum for your services until you were left in charge by Mr. Grenville-Murray in November last; that you received neither office-rent nor remuneration for your services from Mr. Grenville-Murray after that date.

If I am wrong, please correct me by the hands of the bearer.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Mr. Horowitz to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Danish Consulate, Odessa, June $\frac{10}{2}$, 1867.

I AM under the painful necessity of having to complain to your Lordship of the untoward conduct of Mr. J. Edward Wilkins, who is now here on a special mission from the Foreign Office.

About two weeks ago, Mr. Wilkins called upon me, accompanied by Mr. W. H. Hopper, Lloyd's Agent at Constantinople, who left a note to inform me that he had come to introduce Mr. Wilkins. On the following day, I returned Mr. Wilkins' visit, when he laid before me some despatches respecting his Mission, and read some that he had written.

When he handed me the despatches, I asked Mr. Wilkins what motive he had for doing so. He replied, simply that my name was most favourably known to him from the correspondence that your Lordship directed him to read over before he started on his Mission. In the course of our conversation, he mentioned that he might have to request me to answer some questions regarding the marriage of William Laney with Sarah Cramer, which had been witnessed by me. I, in reply, at once said that there was no time like the present, and that I was then, as well as at any future time, ready and willing to reply to any questions which he might wish to put, and to give every assistance to facilitate the object of his Mission. I then went on to state as follows:—

That Mr. Grenville-Murray having called upon me to inquire if I would not object to act for him during a very short absence; and, on my consenting, he forwarded through his private secretary, Mr. T. G. Smith, an official letter, formally empowering me, as Danish Consul, to represent Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.

A few days later, Mr. W. F. Lyon requested me to officiate at the marriage of two British subjects, William Laney and Sarah Cramer, to which I objected, as the latter had not resided long enough in the place, according to Mr. Lyon's own statement.

On the following day, Mr. Lyon came to me, accompanied by the Reverend Thomas G. Clark, who pointed out the Act of Parliament 12 and 13 Vict., sections 13 and 19, and requested me to take into due consideration that Sarah Cramer was without a home or protector and in a foreign country, and that the case was pressing. I replied, that if he, as an English clergyman, urged upon me the propriety of my officially witnessing this marriage, I would consent, and I did so.

The day was appointed; some ten or twelve persons, male and female, were present, nearly all of them known either to Mr. Smith, Mr. Lyon, the Reverend Mr. Clark, or myself, for the celebration of this marriage in the office of the British Consulate-General on the boulevard. The service was read by the Reverend Thomas G. Clark, in the chapel attached to the Consulate, where the Reverend Mr. Blundell had lately officiated; the usual questions were put, and the couple duly and legally married in my presence, as Acting British Consul-General; the certificate was made out by Mr. Smith, signed by the married couple, the Reverend Mr. Clark, by several of the parties present, and finally by myself, and a stamped copy was delivered to the parties married. On leaving the Consulate, Mr. Smith handed to me the Consular fee, which I, having heard that the bride was in humble circumstances, directed him to present to her.

On the conclusion of our conversation, I invited Mr. Wilkins to call upon me on the following day, to see the letter of authority I held from the Consul-General, which he promised to do but did not. A few days later I met him accidentally, when he apologized for not having called, but said he would do so on the following day, which he has not done, but addressed me the following letter:—

“Sir,

“Odessa, June $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

“When you did me the honour of calling on me I availed myself of the opportunity of explaining to you the nature of my Mission to Odessa.

“I have just received further instructions to make a special Report on the circumstances connected with the marriage of one William Laney, with one Sarah Cramer, which marriage appears to have been solemnized in your presence.

“In December last, the Registrar-General in London directed attention to the fact of the omission of the signature and description of the Consul-General in the official register of the marriage.

“I am now directed to ascertain if William Laney's marriage with Sarah Cramer on the 14th September, 1865, was solemnized at the British Consulate by and in the presence of a duly authorized person, in compliance with the English Act of Parliament, 12 and 13 Vict. cap. 68.

"Will you kindly inform me whether the marriage was solemnized at the British Consulate, and whether you were present merely as a witness or whether you attended to represent Mr. Grenville-Murray in his official character for the purpose of solemnizing this marriage; and if so, by what warrant Mr. Grenville-Murray authorized you to act for him? I should also be glad to hear whether you know any reasons which made it impossible for Mr. Grenville-Murray himself to be present.

"I am, &c.

(Signed)

"J. EDWARD WILKINS.

"Simon Horowitz, Esq., Odessa."

Simultaneously with the above letter I received one from Mr. Laney, of the following tenor:—

"Sir,

"Odessa, June $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

"A Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Stevens called upon me on Saturday to inform me that my marriage, which was witnessed by you as Acting Consul, is illegal. The objection they made was that it was a Christian marriage witnessed by a Jew. As you are aware, you refused to permit the marriage without the consent of the Rev. Mr. Clark, who performed the ceremony in your presence, and that of other respectable people, I respectfully beg that you will inform me what I must do under the circumstances.

"I remain, &c.

(Signed)

"W. LANEY."

The tenor of Mr. Laney's letter, and the rumour that was spread all over the town a fortnight previous to the arrival of Mr. Wilkins, and has continued to circulate ever since, that I had witnessed a marriage of two British subjects which I had no right or authority to do, that in consequence the marriage ceremony was illegal, and had to be performed over again, to which I attached at the time no importance, compels me, however, now, after the receipt of the above letters, to reply to Mr. Wilkins as follows, and to lay these facts before your Lordship:—

"Sir,

"Danish Consulate, Odessa, June $\frac{7}{18}$, 1867.

"I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and to inform you that, after having received another letter on the same subject from Mr. Laney, from which I learn that you thought proper to censure my conduct long before you had offered me an opportunity for explanation, I deem it my duty to lay this affair before the Foreign Office.

"I have, &c.

(Signed)

"S. HOROWITZ, Consul.

"J. Edward Wilkins, Esq."

Your Lordship cannot but agree with me that Mr. Wilkins ought to have called upon me after my visit to satisfy himself as to the authenticity of the warrant in my possession, and to have pointed out any omission in the form of the entry of the certificate, if any existed, but certainly not to have acted as he has done towards a colleague who was officially invited to represent Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.

Having thus briefly laid before your Lordship the main facts of my just cause of complaint, I take the liberty of appealing to your Lordship for the redress due to both my official and private position, and further take the liberty of submitting to your Lordship copy of the letter from Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray, empowering me to act during his brief absence, as also copy of an address which the British residents of Odessa have done me the honour to present, through a deputation headed by the Rev. Thomas G. Clark.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

S. HOROWITZ, Consul.

Inclosure 1 in No. 138.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. Horowitz.

Sir,

Odessa, September 10, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will kindly consent to act as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa in case of need, during my brief intended absence.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 138.

The Rev. T. Clark and others to Mr. Horowitz.

Sir,

Odessa, November $\frac{11}{23}$, 1867.

AT the grave yesterday, when we had the sad satisfaction of burying beside his countrymen the remains of one who had been casually laid away among strangers, it could not be forgotten by those who gathered to the ceremony how much the British community in this instance, as on so many other occasions, owed to your good offices. We are very sensible that to the influence of your high name and position, and to your great personal exertions in this matter, it is chiefly due that all necessary formalities were got fulfilled, and that at length our comrade has been lowered to his fit resting-place.

The Hebrew people must ever possess the highest interest for the Christian who, under the Almighty, is indebted to them for all that he most prizes. Our wish accordingly is, that the day may be hastened when hostile prejudices on either side may be numbered with the things of the past, and races cherish a sense of common brotherhood. It, therefore, affords us gratification that in yourself, a gentleman of the Jewish community, is seen one who, by repeated acts of kindness in the most varied circumstances, both of a private and public nature, has not only laid the subjects of Britain in Odessa under great obligations, but has anticipated the happy time when religious distinctions shall no more divide men. Speaking our language like an Englishman, and possessing manners which flatter us by their resemblance to our own, you have almost led us to forget that we are indebted to the member of another family of mankind for those favours which we now beg respectfully to acknowledge.

With sentiments of esteem and gratitude, we remain, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS G. CLARK, *Minister.*

(And 42 others.)

No. 139.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 5.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 20th instant, respecting the case of William Laney's marriage, and, for your Lordship's information, to state that the Rev. Thomas Clark, a Scotch Presbyterian minister who officiates at the English place of worship, supported by the British community at Odessa, came to me on the 24th instant and told me that, from facts which had come to his knowledge, he had felt it his duty to call on William Laney, who told him that the letter stated by Mr. Horowitz to have been received from him respecting my conduct was not written by him, but was written out by another person at the instance of one Lyon, and sent to Mr. Horowitz contrary to the desire and against the consent of himself and Mrs. Laney, and that the next day Laney went to get the letter back, but was told that it was gone to England.

I find the name of a W. F. Lyon subscribed on the 5th May, 1866, in the Register of Births of this Consulate, as informant, thus:—"W. F. Lyon, Secretary, Danish Consul, Odessa." Mr. Horowitz, I understand, had been led to believe I have made remarks which I would willingly have satisfied him I never made.

I would respectfully suggest that, for the purposes of a proper investigation, the original documents sent to England be returned to Odessa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J EDWARD WILKINS.

No. 140.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Odessa, June 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to refer your Lordship to my despatches of the 20th and 26th instant respecting William Laney's marriage, and to report the following facts for your Lordship's information.

Yesterday afternoon, Mrs. William Laney came to me, and told me in the presence of witnesses that, on the morning of Tuesday, the 18th instant, one Mr. Lyon, a clerk to

Mr. Horowitz, drove up to her house with a man named Fenn, and just at that moment one Mary Anne Walton, who had been a witness at her marriage, came in to spend the day with her, that Lyon produced a draft letter, a copy of which, in his own handwriting, Mrs. Laney gave me, and of which I have the honour to inclose a copy; that this letter Lyon asked Laney to write out and sign, but Laney, who was not quite sober, refused, saying, "I will have no writings leave my house;" to which Lyon replied, that it was no harm, as it was only to get the papers from England to prove that it was a true marriage, and to prove Mr. Horowitz had done his duty.

Mrs. Laney further stated that she refused to let Lyon have any writing-paper; that he procured some in the neighbourhood, and induced Mary Anne Walton to copy and sign the letter in William Laney's name.

Mrs. Laney positively states that both Mr. Laney and herself warned Lyon that he would be held responsible for what he was doing, and that the letter was written against their consent.

The next day Mrs. Laney went to call on the Rev. Mr. Clark, to consult him, but she did not see him. On her return that day she found an official letter from Mr. Horowitz, the original of which is now in my possession, and a copy of which I have the honour to inclose. I have attached the envelope with official seal of Danish Consulate affixed to this copy. The body of the letter is in the handwriting of Lyon, the signature the same as that to Mr. Horowitz' reply to me, Inclosure No. 2 in my despatch of 20th instant.

Laney applied to Mr. Horowitz for the letter, but was told it had gone away. Mrs. Laney says she thinks a copy only was sent.

Laney, by request, has given his certificate of marriage to Mr. Horowitz, who promised to return it, but has not yet done so.

Laney is absent from Odessa every day, as he has work some miles off. I do not think he can add anything. Mrs. Laney said she hoped I would consider her having told Mr. Clark sufficient excuse for not coming to me. I told her I did.

The only part of the forged letter which is true, is that Mr. Stevens and I were in Mr. Laney's cottage on the evening named.

Laney is in the employ of an old acquaintance of Mr. Stevens, and lives on the premises; and on Saturday evening I went with Mr. Stevens to call on this person, in order to obtain permission for his servant to attend at the Consulate on the following Monday, it being a public holiday, and so most convenient to master and man. As we were leaving the grounds we accidentally met Mrs. Laney, who asked us to come into her cottage.

The word "Jew" was not mentioned, as Mrs. Laney asserts; and I never mentioned Mr. Horowitz' name, reserving my investigations for a proper time and place.

I have thought it proper to place your Lordship in possession of these facts without delay; and as I now have sufficient evidence, I trust I shall be able to send my Report on the circumstances attendant on the marriage of William Laney by the next mail.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 140.

Draft Letter presented to Mr. W. Laney by Mr. W. F. Lyon, with the request that it should be written out by Laney and sent to Mr. Horowitz; Mr. Laney refused to do this, and it was copied out by one Mary Ann Walton and taken to Mr. Horowitz, against Laney's desire, and without his consent, and replied to next day in the same handwriting, except the signature, which is that of Mr. Horowitz.—J. E. W.

Simon Horowitz, Esq., Odessa.
Sir,

Odessa, June $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

A MR. WILKINS and Mr. Stevens called upon me on Saturday to inform me that my marriage, which was witnessed by you as Acting Consul, is illegal. The objection they made was, that it was a Christian marriage witnessed by a Jew. As you are aware, you refused to permit the marriage without the consent of the Rev. Mr. Clark, who performed the ceremony in your presence, and in that of other respectable people, I respectfully beg that you will inform me what I must do under the circumstances.

I remain, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 140.

The envelope in which this was inclosed was addressed:—

“ Mr. William Laney,
“ No. 71.” “ Odessa.”

And on it is the following certificate:—

“ I certify this to be the true handwriting of Mr. Lyon, the clerk of Mr. Horowitz.
“ GEO. ALEX. STEVENS, *Acting Consul-General*.

“ Odessa, June 29, 1867.”

Mr. Horowitz to Mr. Laney.

Sir,

Odessa, June 29, 1867.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I have to state that I consider your marriage legal and lawful before God and man, and performed in due accordance with the laws and regulations of your Church and country.

As I was officially empowered, by letter of the 10th of September, 1866,* to act for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esquire, copy of which document I shall at any time be happy to give you if required, I can only express my astonishment at the erroneous opinion of others, to which you allude in your letter, declaring your marriage illegal, such declarations being contrary to the Acts of Parliament,† viz., 12 and 13 Viet., cap. 68, s. 13 and 19. This difference of opinion, however, in a matter of such vital importance to you, has induced me to refer the matter direct to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. HOROWITZ.

[The signature is the same as that to the original letter received from Mr. Horowitz by me, and inclosed in my despatch to Lord Stanley of the 26th instant.—J. E. W.]

No. 141.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Horowitz.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 9, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, and to inform you that, after a full consideration of the statements contained therein, it does not appear to his Lordship that you have cause to complain of the conduct towards you of Mr. Wilkins, whose intention it certainly cannot have been to give you offence.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 142.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 11, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 20th, 26th, and 30th ultimo, the former inclosing a correspondence with Mr. Simon Horowitz relative to the marriage of Mr. William Laney; and the two latter embodying the statements of the Rev. Thomas Clark and of Mrs. Laney, from which it appears that a letter, purporting to have been addressed to Mr. Horowitz by Mr. Laney, was in reality not only not written by the latter, but sent to Mr. Horowitz against Mr. and Mrs. Laney's express desire.

I am to transmit to you, in original (to be returned eventually to this office, with your report on the subject), a letter addressed by Mr. Horowitz to Lord Stanley, complaining of your conduct towards him in connection with the marriage in question, together with a copy of the reply which, by Lord Stanley's desire, I addressed to Mr. Horowitz.‡ The original document transmitted in your despatch of the 20th ultimo is likewise returned in compliance with your request.

I am to add that, except in cases of urgent necessity, it will be more convenient that, in future, you should not make partial reports on cases, but include every case in the general report which you have to make on all proceedings at Odessa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

* An error; the marriage took place in September 1865.—J. E. W.

† *Sic*.—J. E. W.

‡ Nos. 138 and 141.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 17.)

My Lord,

Odessa, July 5, 1867.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions contained in Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 4th ultimo, to make a strict investigation into the circumstances attendant on the marriage of Mr. William Laney and Miss Sarah Cramer, purported to have been solemnized at Odessa in September 1865, I now have the honour to report as follows:—

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the Register of Notice of Marriage and of the marriage as they appear in the Register Book.

As the marriage is registered as having been solemnized twenty-three days after the notice was given, no affirmation or declaration under Section 6 of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, was required, although it appears that license to marry was granted at the alleged date of the notice. Mr. Grenville-Murray was in Odessa on the 21st and 24th August, 1865, and also on the 3rd September, as on each of these days he addressed a despatch to Earl Russell, and on the 24th September I find he had just returned from Bessarabia.

Mr. Horowitz had told me that Mr. Grenville-Murray was absent at the time of the marriage, and had asked him to officiate, and, therefore, on receipt of your Lordship's instruction to report specially on this marriage, I addressed a formal official letter to Mr. Horowitz, in which I was careful to explain all the circumstances of the case, simply asking in what capacity Mr. Horowitz attended, and why Mr. Grenville-Murray was not present.

Mr. Horowitz refused to answer these questions. Subsequently Mrs. William Laney brought me a letter from Mr. Horowitz, in which he says that he was officially empowered by letter of the 10th September, 1866, to act for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., to solemnize this marriage which purports to have been solemnized a year previously.

This discrepancy may be capable of explanation.

The notice of marriage, which appears to be in the handwriting of Mr. Thomas Smith, clerk to Mr. Grenville-Murray, and which, as well as the license of marriage, appears to have been signed by Mr. Smith, shows misstatements, blunders, and omissions.

Sarah Cramer says she never was an innkeeper in England, Russia, or elsewhere, and states positively she was only sixteen days in Russia before she was married, of which ten days were in quarantine, and that she landed on a Friday, and was married on the following Thursday at the British Consulate. She knows nothing of the notice of marriage.

In the Marriage Register, her father is stated to be a saddler. I said to her "Mrs. Laney, I believe your father is a saddler." She replied, "My father used to keep horses, and had saddles; but he is a hoop-bender, and lives at Wandsworth." I told Mrs. Laney I wished to see her husband. She said he was at work out of Odessa, but promised he should come. He has not been.

The dwelling-place and length of residence in the notice of marriage are not filled up. I conceive this fact is important. The incomplete notice is signed by William Laney, who is the son of a Hampshire labourer, in a signature common amongst that class in agricultural counties who can do a little more than make their mark.

I believe Mr. Horowitz, who is Danish Consul, attended in good faith, and without fee, relying on a Mr. Lyon, a Scotchman, who had previously been clerk to Mr. Grenville-Murray, and was then, and is now, secretary to Mr. Horowitz, to see that all prescribed regulations were complied with.

The Rev. Thomas Grieve Clark, a Scotch Free Church Presbyterian Minister who officiates at the Presbyterian Church at Odessa, was asked to be present to perform the ceremony in the presence of the civil authority.

Mr. Clark tells me he had misgivings about the legality of the marriage, because he knew Sarah Cramer had not been a month in Russia, and that previous to the ceremony he and Mr. Horowitz raised the question, and that, in the absence of Mr. Grenville-Murray, Mr. Lyon was referred to, as being more capable than Mr. Smith, and that he pointed out that, by the 13th section of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, the proof of residence or consent was not necessary to the validity of the marriage, and argued that if the Consul chose to accept a statement or to ignore the question of residence his act was final, and the marriage would be valid.

I respectfully submit, my Lord—

1. Had the notice of marriage been filled up on a statement made by either Mr. or Mrs. Laney that each of them had resided in the Consular district for one month previous

to the notice required by section 2 of the 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, the Consul, or person authorized to act for him, would not have been responsible for the deception.

2. That the marriage would not have been invalidated by this false statement (see section 13), but that the guilty party to the fraudulent marriage would have been liable to the penalty under section 15.

3. That Laney did not sign a false notice but only an incomplete one, which was, however, received, and a license granted on the same day by the Consul-General, and that a marriage was subsequently solemnized, twenty-three days after the date of the notice, with Mr. Grenville-Murray's consent, in the face of the fact that section 2 had not been complied with.

4. That Mr. Grenville-Murray returned to Odessa before the marriage could properly have been solemnized, and even before notice could have been given.

5. That it was not solemnized in the presence of Eustace C. Grenville-Murray, and thus not within the letter of "The Odessa Marriage Act, 1867."

6. That there is no evidence that the marriage was performed by or in the presence of a person duly authorized to act in the absence of Mr. Grenville-Murray.

7. That it appears from the archives that the Registrar-General, on the 19th December, 1866, called attention to the fact that the signature and description of the Consul-General had been omitted in this marriage, and that the certificate at the foot of the Return of Marriages for the year 1865 had not been signed by him.

8. That I find the Acts of Parliament and instructions, to which my notice has been called, relating to births, deaths, and marriages, in the archives of this Consulate.

9. That I find no fee registered as having been received for any act connected with this marriage.

Throughout this transaction I believe Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Smith relied on the statements and judgment of Mr. Lyon, who, it was well known, Mr. Grenville-Murray employed in connection with matters of the gravest official trust, of which there is abundant evidence in the archives.

I will endeavour to obtain the certificate of William Laney's marriage, now, I believe, with Mr. Horowitz.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

P.S.—The marriage register states the marriage was according to the rites of "the Churches of England and Scotland," by "banns." I can get no explanation of this.

J. E. W.

Inclosure 1 in No. 143.

Notice of Marriage.

[Pursuant to Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68, sec. 2.]

To the British Consul-General at Odessa.

I HEREBY give you notice, that a marriage is intended to be had, within three calendar months from the date hereof, between me and the other party herein named and described; (that is to say),

Name and Surname.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Dwelling Place.	Length of Residence.
William Laney . .	Bachelor	Miller	36		
Sarah Cramer . .	Spinster	Innkeeper . .	25		

Witness my hand, this 22nd day of August, 1865.

(Signed)

WILLIAM LANEY.

I, E. C. Grenville-Murray, British Consul at Odessa, certify that licence has been this day granted by me for the solemnization of the marriage in respect of which the above notice was given.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *Consul-General.*

Dated at Odessa, this 22nd August, 1865.

N.B.—This certificate and licence will be void unless the marriage of the parties named in the above notice be solemnized on or before the 22nd day of November, 1865.

Inclosure 2 in No. 143.

Extract from the Marriage Register at the British Consulate-General at Odessa.

British Consul-General's District of Russian Ports in the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff
1865. Marriage solemnized at Odessa.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
19	1865 Sept. 14	William Laney ..	36	Bachelor ..	Miller ..	Odessa .	George Laney ..	Labourer.
		Sarah Cramer ..	25	Spinster ..	Innkeeper ..	Odessa .	John Cramer ..	Saddler.

Married in the British Consulate-General, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Churches of England and Scotland, by banns, by me,
(Signed) THOS. G. CLARK.

This marriage was solemnized between us :
(Signed) WILLIAM LANEY.
SARAH CRAMER.

In the presence of us :
(Signed) SIMON HOROWITZ.
W. F. LYON.
L. NOONAN.
THOMAS WALTON.
MARY ANN WALTON.

No. 144.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Odessa, July 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on Monday, 22nd instant, of Mr. Murray's despatch of 11th instant, transmitting to me in original a letter addressed by Mr. Horowitz to your Lordship, complaining of my conduct towards him, and a copy of the reply Mr. Murray addressed, by your Lordship's desire, to Mr. Horowitz.

I have also the honour to acknowledge the receipt, *via* Constantinople, at 2 o'clock of Thursday the 25th instant, of a letter directed under cover to me to Simon Horowitz, Esq., Consul for Denmark, Odessa, Russia, which was delivered to him in person, through Her Majesty's Consulate-General, between half-past 4 and 5 o'clock the same day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

No. 145.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 9.)

My Lord,

Odessa, July 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 15th of June, of Mr. Under-Secretary Murray's despatch of 4th idem, instructing me to submit to Mr. Laney, for his consideration, whether under the circumstances which have arisen concerning his marriage, it might not be prudent for him at once to be married in conformity with the provisions of the Act 12 and 13, Vict., cap. 68.

Immediately on receipt of Mr. Murray's despatch, I called on Mr. Laney, an ignorant but apparently honest man, for the purpose of carrying out your Lordship's orders, but not finding him at home, I left a message for him with both his master, Mr. Hava and Mrs. Laney, requesting his attendance at the Consulate.

Ill-advised, however, by some persons of obscure character who, for interested motives of their own, have made several unsuccessful attempts to undermine my position and frustrate my efforts to put this office on a respectable footing, descending even to low

personalities and vulgarisms, Mr. Laney was prevented from coming to the Consulate, and three days latter, Mr. Wilkins also requiring to see Mr. Laney, I repeated my request in writing, which, however, he only answered in person to-day, when he expressed his regret for not coming earlier, and I communicated to him the tenor of Mr. Murray's despatch, by which, now that he understands it, he seems inclined to be guided.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

No. 146.

Mr. Wilkins to Mr. James Murray.—(Received August 9.)

Sir,

Odessa, July 31, 1867.

IN compliance with your request, I beg to return the original letter from Mr. Horowitz, dated the 22nd ultimo, with its inclosures. For your information I add that William Laney came to me on Monday last, and brought me another unsigned copy of the letter written by Mary Ann Walton in Laney's name, which second copy was (as was the first) in Lyon's handwriting, and which Laney says was presented to him by a Mrs. Brown (at whose boarding-house Lyon lives) with the request that it be signed by him.

He refused to sign this second paper, as he had refused to sign the first, retained the draft and brought it to me

This occurred on the 2nd of July, after it became known I was aware of the forged letter, and the fact corresponds with Mrs. Laney's statement, that Mr. Horowitz has said that he would yet prove that he had a letter from Laney.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Walton came to the Consulate a few days since to register the birth of a child, and I then showed her the first draft letter in Lyon's handwriting. She said at once it was that from which she copied the letter, which she signed in Laney's name.

Her statements corresponded with Mrs. Laney's, except that she said that Mrs. Laney, when asked to sign it, said, "You do it, I am too nervous." Mr. and Mrs. Laney both state, however, that it was Lyon who persuaded Mrs. Walton to write it, saying, "Write it, Polly; write it, Polly. I must be off."

I have not taken any steps in this matter; but as William Laney says he wishes to be protected from further interference and intimidation, I shall, if necessary, take necessary counsel and act.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. EDWARD WILKINS.

P.S.—I make no remarks about the statements concerning myself, reserving explanations for general report, but I do consider it important that you should know that both Mr. and Mrs. Laney positively state that Mr. Horowitz did not hand them the fee as stated by him, and that so far from receiving money, they made a donation to Mr. Clark's church. They paid no fee to Mr. Smith, Mr. Horowitz, or anyone else, nor was one required of them.

J. E. W.

No. 147.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo, and to previous correspondence upon the subject of the marriage performed at Odessa in September 1865, between William Laney and Sarah Cramer, I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that, after consulting the Law Officers of the Crown, his Lordship will defer his decision upon this matter until your final Report shall have been received.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Perkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 28.)

My Lord,

Odessa, October 19, 1867.

I TAKE the liberty of addressing this letter privately to your Lordship as I am anxious that it should come under the direct notice of your Lordship.

I had the honour of serving under your Lordship in the capacity of Acting-Consul General here, and was also for many years Secretary of the Consulate of the United States, and it is under these auspices that I now beg to appeal to your Lordship for redress in consequence of the conduct I had to experience from Mr. J. E. Wilkins, here on a special Commission.

During his inquiry we had some interviews respecting Consular business, and exchanged also several letters. On the $\frac{8}{20}$ th of June, he wrote to me "that he had to thank me for my prompt reply; when, on the 31st of August, I received from him the following very strange letter:—

"My dear Sir,

"Hotel de Londres, Odessa, August 31, 1867.

"You will no doubt recollect my speaking to you on the subject of the granting of two passports to Messrs. Alexander and John Vucina for travelling on the Continent, as British subjects, on the 1st of November, 1866, the day on which you entered on your duties as Acting Consul-General. These passports appear to be signed by you, and therefore would seem to be issued on your personal responsibility; but as I understood you to say that you did not issue them on your own responsibility, but under instructions from Mr. Grenville-Murray on the day he left Odessa, I shall be obliged to you to inform me under what circumstances you did issue these passports. I am going to leave Odessa very shortly, and trust you will send me a reply at your earliest convenience.

"I am, &c.

"James Perkins, Esq.

(Signed) "J. EDWARD WILKINS."

As I had fully explained the particulars regarding the above passports verbally, and to his expressed entire satisfaction, I felt that the above inquiry was not only uncalled for, but offensive, and wrote to him in consequence as follows:—

"My dear Sir,

"Odessa, September 2, 1867.

"In reply to your note of the 31st of August which I received yesterday (Sunday), I have to state that I find it strange that you question me a second time on the self-same subject. It is an unusual proceeding between gentlemen. Disregarding the motive I have to repeat my answer, viz., that it was on the eve of departure that Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, instructed me, verbally, to deliver the passports to Messrs. Alexander and John Vucina.

"I am, &c.

"J. E. Wilkins, Esq.

(Signed) "JAS. PERKINS."

To this letter I received no reply, and I neither saw nor heard anything from Mr. Wilkins till Sunday the $\frac{3}{15}$ th September, when in church, after the service was ended, Mr. Wilkins accosted my son, a lad 16 years, just out of school, attempting to examine him regarding my conduct in the affairs of the Consulate; to which my son, seeing the impropriety of such proceedings, and knowing nothing about my affairs, gave no reply. This took place in the presence of Mr. Walkenshaw.

On the $\frac{26}{8}$ th September, when being on board the British steamer "Una," where I had gone with my family to accompany and take leave of my eldest son and daughter, going to Athens, Mr. Wilkins arrived there also with his wife and the family of Mr. Stevens, to accompany and take leave of the sister of Mr. Stevens, who was going to Constantinople by the same boat. Mr. Wilkins had scarcely put his foot on board, when he came up to me at such a place and moment to cross-examine me about Consular business in the presence of third parties, and accused me in their presence of not having given candid replies to his formal inquiries, or of refusing to reply to them either verbally or in writing; to which I but replied that from first to last he had received from me both verbal and written answers to all his inquiries, and that I was then, as before, ready and willing to give to him prompt answers in writing, but objected to be cross-examined publicly about Government affairs on board a passenger steamer.

Allow me to express, my Lord, my hope of receiving a due apology for the gratuitous insults I have received from Mr. Wilkins.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. PERKINS.

No. 149.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Perkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, complaining of Mr. Wilkins' conduct towards you, and I am to state to you in reply that if you thought you had any just cause of complaint against Mr. Wilkins, you should have informed that gentleman of it while he was at Odessa, and have made your complaint while he was there, instead of waiting until he had left; but I am further to acquaint you that Lord Stanley is unable to discover in the representation that you have made to him that you have any ground of complaint against Mr. Wilkins.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 150.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

London, November 13, 1867.

I TRUST your Lordship will hold me excused for again venturing to address you on the subject of the inquiry which your Lordship sent Mr. Wilkins to Odessa to make into the circumstances connected with the discharge of my duties in the Consulate at that station.

I believe I am correct in stating that Mr. Wilkins left England for Odessa to conduct the inquiry as far back as the end of April last, and also in assuming that Mr. Wilkins reported the result to your Lordship before he left Odessa, now several weeks ago; I therefore, respectfully ask that your Lordship will allow me to be furnished with a copy of the Report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 151.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 14, 1867.

IN reply to your letter of the 13th instant, I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that Mr. Wilkins' Report upon the Odessa Consulate has not yet been received.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 21.)

My Lord,

London, November 20, 1867.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, I have the honour to express the very great disappointment I feel that no Report has yet been received from Mr. Wilkins.

I have learned that this gentleman left London at the end of April last, and, allowing eight or nine days for the journey, should have arrived at Odessa early in May. From that time to the close of September, a period of about five months, he appears to have remained at Odessa; and I had, therefore, taken it for granted that he had made his Report before he left. The very painful position in which I am placed as regards my pecuniary affairs must be my excuse for submitting to your Lordship that, on the 21st of August last, I expressed a hope that your Lordship would not consider me unreasonable in requesting that I might resume my office as Consul-General; adding that, as I had no private resources to enable me to provide for my family, further delay would involve me and them in utter and irretrievable ruin.

I venture now again respectfully to urge that there is no change whatever in my circumstances since that time, and I therefore humbly entreat that your Lordship will direct that the question may be brought to the earliest possible conclusion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 9.)

My Lord,

London, December 9, 1867.

MY pecuniary circumstances compel me very respectfully to remind your Lordship that on the 21st of August I expressed a hope that your Lordship would not consider me unreasonable if I requested permission to resume my official duties.

Not having been honoured with any reply, I ventured on the 13th of November to address your Lordship again on the subject, and, in reply, was informed that Mr. Wilkins' report had not been received.

On the 20th of November I again presumed humbly to entreat that your Lordship would direct that the question might be brought to the earliest possible conclusion, and I now respectfully ask that your Lordship will take the hardship of my case into your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Captain Halsted, R.N., to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 17.)

Sir,

Lloyd's, December 17, 1867.

BY direction of the Committee for managing the affairs of Lloyd's, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of Lord Stanley, the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Simon Horowitz, the agent for this establishment at Odessa, in which he calls attention to the inconvenience and disadvantage occasioned by the course adopted by Mr. George A. Stevens, the Acting British Consul at Odessa, in appointing a survey on the brig "Maggie," Davies, and merely inviting Mr. Horowitz to attend, thus taking all personal control over the surveyors and repairs out of his hands.

It appears that the practice of Consul-General Grenville-Murray, and of his predecessor, Consul-General Mathew, has been to refer masters of ships, in all cases affecting insurance, direct to Lloyd's agent, which the Committee consider the proper course; and they will therefore feel obliged by Lord Stanley issuing directions to the Acting Consul-General to pursue a similar course.

The Committee have been in communication with Mr. Grenville-Murray (now in London), who corroborates the statement of Mr. Horowitz as to the practice at Odessa hitherto in cases of this description; and from Mr. Murray the Committee learn that Mr. Stevens was not appointed by himself, but by Lord Stanley.

I beg to annex a Memorandum of the several documents inclosed by Mr. Horowitz, which I shall be happy to submit to you if required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. A. HALSTED, *Secretary.*

Inclosure in No. 154.

Mr. Horowitz to Captain Halsted, R.N.

Sir,

Odessa, November $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

REFERRING to my letter ^{25th October} _{6th November}, I now have to advise my having granted a certificate for seaworthiness to the brig "Maggie," Wm. Davies, master, and inclose herewith particulars of surveys and repairs.

In laying these documents before the Honourable Committee, I must call their attention to the fact, that this survey was appointed by the British Consulate, and that I was invited merely to attend through the same medium as agent for Lloyd's, thus taking all personal control over the surveyors and repairs out of my hands. As I saw, by the copy of the master's letter to the Consulate, that he particularly desired my attendance; and finding the surveyors were reliable men, I waived all personal and other considerations, and attended the survey, as a leaky ship in an open harbour at this advanced season of the year was in a most precarious position, and had to be repaired without the least loss of time.

It is obvious that the interests of the underwriters can be better protected by the responsible superintendence of their agents, and can by no means be benefited by the interference of third parties. For the last twelve years both Mr. Consul-General Mathew and Mr. Consul-General Grenville-Murray, invariably referred masters of ships, in all cases affecting insurance, direct to this agency, whilst, as will be seen by the inclosed documents, this affair was in this instance, and for the first time, taken out of my hands.

In comparing my Report with the Report of the surveyors, you will observe that unnecessary time was lost, and heavy expenses incurred for the ship, and that Fortunato Kirtizza, who was doing the repairs by contract, was appointed to survey his own work.

In the face of these facts I deem it my duty to request the Honourable Committee to empower me to decline attending on their behalf, unless applied to direct, when I retain the power of appointing and controlling surveyors for whom I am responsible.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. HOROWITZ, *Lloyd's Agent.*

Documents inclosed by Mr. Horowitz.

Letter from the Master to the Consul, dated 4th November, 1867, with Memorandum of the Consul appended to the same.

Letter from ditto to ditto, dated 7th November, with ditto.

Letter from ditto to ditto, dated 13th November, with ditto.

Letter from ditto to ditto, dated 18th November, with ditto.

Surveys called by the Consul on the ship, dated 5th, 7th, and 19th November.

Mem.—All the above are notarial copies.

Memorandum of Lloyd's Agent of Surveys on Ship, dated 5th, 8th, 9th, 14th, and 19th November.

No. 155.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Wilkins.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 17, 1867.

I AM desired by Lord Stanley to express to you his strongest wish that you should forward to him, without any further delay, your Report on Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings.

His Lordship is of opinion that a sufficient time has now elapsed for the preparation of that Report, and it is neither fair to Mr. Grenville-Murray, whose conduct has been impugned, nor advantageous to the public interests, that the decision on his conduct should be any longer delayed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

London, December 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that in obedience to your Lordship's instructions of the 29th April last, I have been to Odessa, and have, as well as my ability and circumstances permitted, made the inquiry your Lordship deemed it necessary to institute into certain proceedings at the British Consulate there.

In accordance with your Lordship's orders, all papers relating to these proceedings, in so far as they had been reported, were placed before me, from which I learnt that Mr. Grenville-Murray was appointed Consul-General at Odessa in July 1858, that he entered on his duties in September 1858, and remained there, with the exception of three months in 1861, until November 1866, when he left Odessa on leave of absence, and that during the intervening period various complaints affecting his official conduct had been made.

Your Lordship informed me that it might not be necessary that I should enter into any matters which were brought before the Foreign Office previously to Mr. Grenville-Murray leaving Odessa in November 1866, although the knowledge of them might be useful to me in my inquiries into other matters, or in the event of anything connected with them being introduced locally to my notice.

The cases to which my special attention was directed, were those to which your Lordship's attention had particularly been called by Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens since he assumed charge of the Consulate at Odessa in December 1866.

As I shall report on each of these cases, it is not necessary to state them in detail here.

It appears from the correspondence that Mr. Grenville-Murray's explanations, as far as he had given any, had been considered by your Lordship, after consultation with the Law Adviser of the Crown, to be unsatisfactory; and that your Lordship felt that the question had arisen whether Mr. Grenville-Murray had or had not really acted improperly, and if he had, whether such conduct was the result of mere negligence or otherwise.

On the face of the evidence, as placed before your Lordship, statements had been made reflecting seriously on the character of an officer holding Her Majesty's Commission; and I was informed that the interests of the public service required that no doubts should be allowed to exist as to whether such officer had acted in a manner unbecoming his position, or in violation of his duty to the Crown; but in order to clear up doubts, it would be needful that all investigations into facts and occurrences should be conducted with the utmost impartiality by me.

I beg respectfully to express a hope that, after a perusal of this Report, and the accompanying proofs, your Lordship will feel that I have endeavoured to deserve the confidence reposed in me.

Question No. 1, relating to Passports.

The first case to which my attention was especially directed is a question (arising out of an application which Mr. Stevens expected to receive from certain Greek subjects, named Vucina, for protection as British subjects) as to the issue of passports by Mr. Grenville-Murray to persons not being entitled to them.

This case came before your Lordship in a despatch dated 31st of January, 1867,* from Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, stating that Mr. Grenville-Murray had caused British passports to be issued to Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina, of Odessa, Ionians, who ceased to be entitled to British protection on the cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece in 1864.

Mr. Grenville-Murray was invited to explain his conduct in this matter,† and he replied that the passports were granted "on the written declaration of two resident merchants that Messrs. Vucina were British subjects and not Ionians."‡

Mr. Grenville-Murray's attention was thereupon called to his despatch of the 19th September, 1863,§ in which he had said he had been requested to give a letter to Mr. John Vucina, who was to proceed to London for the purpose of expressing to Earl Russell the desire of himself and family to become British subjects, notwithstanding the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece.

M. Jean G. Voutzina had been told with reference to that despatch, on October 13, 1863,|| that none of the Messrs. Vucina could receive British protection under any circumstances whilst domiciled out of England.

* No. 60.

† No. 62.

‡ No. 63.

§ No. 52.

|| No. 53.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's further explanations to your Lordship were, that the regulations observed at Her Majesty's Consulate-General for the issue of passports are the same as those established at the Foreign Office; and that, therefore, when a respectable firm of resident merchants applied for passports, making a solemn declaration that they were British subjects, their request was granted in the usual way; and that the despatch referred to did not affect the question, as the Vucinas are a numerous family, and the application might have been naturally supposed to refer to some other member, it being the custom of Greek mercantile houses in unsettled countries to have partners of different nationalities in order that their trade might not suffer by war and political events.*

Mr. Grenville-Murray further says that there was no apparent reason whatever to induce the partners in a firm so respectable as that of Messrs. Vucina to make a false declaration on the subject, and that it would have been unbecoming for him to have doubted the truth of their statement.

The letter of Messrs. Vucina applying for the passports was addressed to Mr. Grenville-Murray on the 27th October, 1866,† and he instructed Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins to issue the passports to Messrs. Vucina on the eve of his departure on the 1st of November.

I beg respectfully to inform your Lordship that I have no further statement to add to those made by Mr. Stevens directly bearing on the most important fact in this case, which is, whether Mr. Grenville-Murray, at the time he instructed Mr. Perkins to issue the passports to Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina, was aware that these were the same persons to whom British protection was refused on Mr. Grenville-Murray's own application by Earl Russell in 1863.

The statement by one of the Messrs. Vucina that they were the same persons, made verbally to Mr. Stevens before my arrival, and verbally confirmed subsequently, does not prove Mr. Grenville-Murray's knowledge of their identity.

The only direct evidence of that fact is not improbably in the possession of Mr. Grenville-Murray himself, as I gathered from inquiries in Odessa that both Mr. John and Mr. Alexander Vucina signed the address dated August 1864,‡ presented by the Ionian residents of Odessa on the occasion of their closing official relations with him as Her Majesty's Consul-General, on the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece, and inclosed in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of 10th September, 1864.

In the Consulate at Odessa and in the Foreign Office is a copy of this Memorial, but the names of the signers are not given.

Instead of the signatures in detail, it is stated, in the copies I have seen in the Consulate at Odessa and the Foreign Office, as follows:—

“Here follow the signatures of the principal merchants and bankers.”

As I found it the generally accepted opinion that Messrs. Vucina were in 1864 members of one of the most prominent mercantile firms in Odessa, of which all the members were Ionians, that theirs was the only firm of that name in Odessa, and that Mr. Grenville-Murray was well acquainted and on friendly terms with them, it is not unreasonable to suppose that they did sign the Memorial.

If this be the case, Mr. Grenville-Murray had evidence in his possession that they are Ionians under the protection of the King of Greece.

I respectfully submit that Mr. Grenville-Murray acted at least incautiously in directing Mr. Perkins to issue the passports to the Messrs. Vucina without requiring some confirmation of Messrs. Vucina's statement.

Mr. Grenville-Murray could not have been unaware that two leading merchants, named John and Alexander Vucina, had been refused British protection, and he must have known that the letter signed by them was not written by them, but by Mr. Lyon, formerly much employed in matters connected with the Consulate, and then Secretary to a Mr. Horowitz, who is Danish Consul and Lloyd's Agent.

The text of the letter (Inclosure No. 1) applying for a passport, written by Mr. Lyon and signed by Messrs. Vucina, suggests that it was framed with an intention.

Messrs. Vucina are made to say that they have been “British subjects;” not that they are.

They say nothing about being Ionians.

This criticism may appear to your Lordship as too technical; but, from the sinister course pursued by Mr. Lyon in other matters which came before me, I do attach some significance to the peculiar wording of this letter, which gives to their statement a colouring of truth.

Were it not for Mr. Grenville-Murray's defence of his conduct to your Lordship it

* No. 67.

† Inclosure 1 in No. 156, page 180.

‡ Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

could be readily understood that on the eve of his departure for England, after a nine years' residence abroad, the order to Mr. Perkins might in haste have been issued inadvertently.

But Mr. Grenville-Murray, in his despatch of March 4, 1867,* defends his proceedings.

He says that his regulations for the issue of passports were those in force at the Foreign Office (Inclosure No. 2).

The regulations in the Foreign Office which seem applicable to the facts disclosed respecting the issue of these passports to Messrs. Vucina, are the conditions stated in section 6, namely, that the applicant must either be known or recommended by some one who is known to the person granting the passport (the Secretary of State).

Mr. Grenville-Murray says that his despatch of 19th September, 1863,† "may have been naturally supposed to refer to some other member of the numerous family of Vucina."

Now, Messrs. Vucina recommended themselves, and their passports were granted on their declaration that they had been British subjects.

Therefore I respectfully submit to your Lordship—

1st. That if Mr. Grenville-Murray did not know Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina he failed to comply with his own regulations.

He should have required a confirmation of Messrs. Vucina's statements.

2ndly. That if he did know the Messrs. Vucina, it is difficult to believe that he did not also know that these gentlemen were the same persons to whom British protection had been refused in 1863, on the occasion of Mr. Grenville-Murray's application to Earl Russell on their behalf.

Mr. Grenville-Murray observes, there was no apparent reason to induce the partners in a firm so respectable as that of Messrs. Vucina to make a false declaration.

Whatever may have been Messrs. Vucina's reason for doing this, Mr. Grenville-Murray scarcely acted prudently in granting, without inquiry, British passports to travel on the continent, to members of a Greek firm well known in Southern Russia as active sympathizers with the Cretan insurgents.

I have the honour to inclose extracts from an Odessa paper, pointing to Mr. John Vucina's connection with this movement.

It should be observed that these extracts are dated three months after the passports were issued (Inclosure 3A).

No fees appear to have been levied on the issue of passports.

It was not unusual for a clerk to sign Mr. Grenville-Murray's name to passports.

Mr. Charlton's Box.

The second case to which my attention was directed by your Lordship is a question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Charlton, agent at Odessa for Messrs. Furness and Co., contractors for public works at that place, for a box of papers deposited by him for safe custody at the Consulate) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in removing from the Consulate, and making over to a person in England without the knowledge or consent of the depositor, important documents deposited with him in his official capacity.

I beg respectfully to report to your Lordship that the Mr. Charlton referred to informed me that, in the year 1862, he succeeded a former agent of Messrs. Furness and Co. (who had a contract for paving Odessa) in the management of the works there.

Before Mr. Charlton went to Odessa, Mr. Furness instructed him to confer with Mr. Consul-General Grenville-Murray in all matters connected with the Paving Company.

He therefore sent to Mr. Murray copies of letters and minutes of all important proceedings, and looked to him for advice in local matters, and as the proper person through whom communications should be held with the Russian authorities.

Mr. Charlton knew that Mr. Grenville-Murray had been introduced by a Mr. Cutbill to Messrs. Furness and Co., and believes that a correspondence passed between them; but Mr. Charlton positively asserts that he sent the papers to him on behalf of Messrs. Furness and Co., and sent a box for their safe keeping, marked "G. F. & Co."

In 1864, Mr. Charlton ceased to consult Mr. Grenville-Murray or send further communications.

The application of Mr. Charlton to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens arose out of the settlement of a law-suit with a M. Gowziarowsky, a sub-contractor, and the cancellation of the original contract in Mr. Charlton's possession.

This contract bears the following endorsement :—

“Government Fee, 2s. 6d. No. 46.

“I hereby certify that the above document has been presented this day for legalization, and a copy thereof deposited in the office of Her Britannic Majesty’s Consulate-General.”

“British Consulate-General, Odessa, July 14, 1863.

(L.S.)

“By order,

(Signed)

“T. G. SMITH,

“For Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul-General.”

Mr. Charlton wished to have the endorsement of the cancellation noted in the copy deposited in the Consulate.

It was not to be found there, and Mr. Stevens, on the 24th of January, 1867, applied by telegram and letter to Mr. Grenville-Murray in London, asking where he could find the box in question, as he supposed this contract was in it.

No reply was received to the telegram or letter, and on the 19th of February,* Mr. Stevens forwarded the correspondence on the subject to your Lordship.

On the 2nd of March† the papers were sent by your Lordship to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

On the 4th of March‡ he informed your Lordship that he would immediately make the necessary inquiries, and on the 19th of that month.§ in his letter to your Lordship of that date, stated that he took charge of the papers at the request of the late Mr. Cutbill, Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, and which, having no reference whatever to Her Majesty’s Consulate-General, he had felt bound to deliver to that gentleman’s representatives.

On the 22nd of March,|| seventeen questions were submitted to Mr. Grenville-Murray, who, on the 25th [? 26th] of March,¶ answered that he had received the papers from Mr. Charlton for Mr. Cutbill, at the request of the latter, conveyed to him by Mrs. Grenville-Murray, from whom he understood Mr. Cutbill had an interest in the contract.

It was further stated that Mr. Cutbill was dead, and that the papers were, on the 18th of March, handed over to Mr. Alfred Cutbill, his father’s representative.

On Saturday, the 16th of March,** Mr. Furness wrote to Mr. Grenville-Murray with reference to the removal of the box and documents from the Consulate at Odessa, and said that unless he heard from Mr. Grenville-Murray, and had the box and the documents that were contained therein handed over to him in the course of a few days, he should be under the painful necessity of laying a statement of the matter before the Foreign Office.

Mr. Grenville-Murray, in his letter to your Lordship of the 26th of March, stated that the papers were handed to Mr. Cutbill on the 18th of March, and inclosed a letter to himself from Mr. Alfred Cutbill, dated the 25th, in which that gentleman says, “that the papers which were deposited with you at Odessa, and were kindly taken charge of by you at the request of my late father, were, more than a week ago, handed over to Mr. Furness’ chief clerk, by me, because I did not consider that my father’s executors had any longer reasons for detaining them.”

This box and papers, about which Mr. Grenville-Murray informed your Lordship on the 4th he would make inquiries, were, on the 18th, two days after Mr. Furness’ letter, handed to Mr. Alfred Cutbill by Mr. Grenville-Murray without his being called upon to do so, and at once handed by Mr. Alfred Cutbill to Mr. Furness.

Mr. Alfred Cutbill is in error when he says, in his letter of the 25th,†† that the papers were handed to Mr. Furness more than a week ago.

I further beg to call your Lordship’s attention to the fact that, as these papers were not intended to be registered, no fees were paid.

So far as these papers are concerned, I am authorized to state that the only point on which Mr. Charlton feels aggrieved, is the statement to your Lordship by Mr. Grenville-Murray, that he received them for Mr. Cutbill, and not for Messrs. Furness and Co.

Mr. Charlton contends that the fact of Mr. Grenville-Murray causing them to be handed over to Mr. Furness on Monday the 18th, two days after application was made for them on Saturday the 16th, is inconsistent with Mr. Grenville-Murray’s view.

A copy of the missing contract with Mr. Gowziorowsky was in the box, but that was without any indorsement, showing it was intended for registration; and it is not unreasonable to suppose that it may have been a copy for Mr. Grenville-Murray’s use, in common with the rest of the papers.

* No. 79.

¶ No. 86.

† No. 80.

** Inclosure 4 in No. 156, page 182.

‡ No. 82.

§ No. 83.

|| No. 85.

†† Inclosure 2 in No. 86;

My attention was called to the fact that another contract with a sub-contractor, named M. Antonne, was not to be found in the archives where I searched for it.

I have the honour to inclose a statement made to me by M. Antonne, and the copy of the indorsement on his contract, from which it appears that M. Antonne handed a copy of his contract to Mr. Grenville-Murray, who examined it with him, and then gave it to his clerk to "register," as M. Antonne expressed himself.*

The certificate of registration endorsed on the original is signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray's clerk, but M. Antonne stated that Mr. Grenville-Murray affixed the seal which he showed me, which is a red medallion wafer bearing the Royal Arms, similar to that affixed to the document, Inclosure No. 7 in this Report.

Madame Tagliaferro's Case.

The third case to which my attention was directed by your Lordship was a question arising out of an application made to Mr. Acting Consul General Stevens by Messrs. Tubino, of Berdiansk, for an amended certificate, empowering Madame Margaret Tagliaferro to sell a certain property at that place—as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in issuing a certificate, for which there does not appear to be any legal authority, and which was informal, and was of no value for the purpose for which it was intended.

I have the honour to report, that it appears from Mr. Stevens' despatch to your Lordship of the 26th of February, 1867† (Inclosure No. 6), that in the autumn of 1866, Madame Tagliaferro, a widow of a British subject, who was domiciled and died in Russia, had entered into a contract to sell to Messrs. Tubino, Italians, real property at Berdiansk, in Russia, belonging to her children who are minors; and that on this occasion a certificate was granted by Mr. Grenville-Murray, the Consul-General at Odessa, empowering Madame Tagliaferro to sell this property.

In this despatch is an inclosure (No 1) of an original letter from Messrs. Tubino, dated Berdiansk, ^{February 26}_{March 6,} 1867, and addressed to the Consul-General of Her Britannic Majesty at Odessa in which they say that the certificate delivered by the Consul-General to Madame Tagliaferro to empower her to sell on behalf of the minors, was found to be informal by the Russian authorities, and required to be rectified.

Mr. Stevens declined to confirm the tenor of the certificate, or to certify to the signature or seal attached to it and reported the matter to your Lordship.

I have the honour to inclose the original certificate (Inclosure 7), which is in Russian, with a red medallion wafer, bearing the Royal Arms, affixed opposite the signature.

It is dated October, but the day of the month is omitted.

The translation of this document (Inclosure No. 5 in Mr. Stevens' despatch‡) is as follows :—

(Translation.)

"Given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, to the British subject, Margherita Tagliaferro, to the effect that according to the Petition presented by her, Margherita Tagliaferro, to this Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Great Britain, on the 8th instant,§ in which she explains that according to the decision of the Maltese Civil Tribunal, dated 24th September, 1863, and according to the Act of Partition made on the 24th December, of same year, the house and store, with all the buildings and ground situated in the town of Berdiansk, in Queen Street, in the 43rd quarter (of the town), numbered 1 and 10, which has been in the joint possession of the partners of the former commercial firm of Berdiansk, Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons, has passed into the exclusive and full power of her children, Biagi, Felice, Odorada, Arsenia, and Alberto, minors, the heirs of the deceased husband, Simon Tagliaferro, for whom and which property she is named guardian; and that in receiving the aforesaid property at Berdiansk, she finds it more profitable for the interest of the minors to sell the above-mentioned house and store, and the money to be received for the aforesaid property to be placed out at interest in the Credit Institution, for which reason she demands this Consulate-General to grant her, according to the laws of Great Britain, permission to expropriate by sale the above-mentioned property at Berdiansk, which belongs to her children, over whom she is guardian.

"In consequence of which, Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, acknowledging the reasons and proofs (explained by Margherita Tagliaferro, the guardian of her own children, and their property) which have induced her to demand permission to sell the property at Berdiansk belonging to her children, and considering them beneficial to the interest of the minors, delivers to the mother their guardian, the British subject

* Inclosure 5 in No 156, page 183.

† See No. 89.

‡ Page 111.

§ October. This would be the 20th October, new style.—J. E. W.

Margherita Tagliaferro, this certificate, based on the laws of Great Britain, certifying that Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa grants to the guardian Margherita Tagliaferro the right to sell the above-mentioned property of the minors at Berdiansk, to make a deed of sale, receive money, or expropriate by other means.

"In witness whereof, this certificate is delivered to her under signature and Consular seal, October 1866, Odessa.

(Red Medallion Wafer with
Royal Arms affixed.)

(Signed) "E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
"Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General."

On the 16th of March,* Mr. Grenville-Murray was invited by your Lordship to explain his proceedings, but his replies were considered unsatisfactory; and on the 30th of March last,† seventeen questions were submitted to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's statements, as derived from his answers to these questions, and his explanations to your Lordship in his despatch of the 8th of April last,‡ are substantially as follows (see Inclosure 8).

He speaks of the property of the children as a building or ruined barn, which yielded no rent; had been offered for sale for eight years without finding a purchaser; and in which the interest of the minors was so entirely contingent on the satisfaction of prior claims, that it was stated to be, in fact, *nil*, both in law and equity.

Respecting the sale to Messrs. Tubino, Mr. Grenville-Murray said that the property had not been sold, but that Madame Tagliaferro had power from the Courts at Malta to sell the interest of the children, and relied on these Maltese powers of sale, and not on the authority to sell, granted to her by the Consulate-General in the certificate in Russian.

Madame Tagliaferro makes a written statement to this effect, which is inclosed in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of the 8th of April, 1867,§ and relied on by Mr. Grenville-Murray to support his statement (see Inclosure 8).

As regards the issue of the certificate, Mr. Grenville-Murray said that it "was an undated draft;" that if it had not been a draft, his official signature would have been affixed in English, and that the day of the month would have been written in full.

He said that it was written in Russian to be sent through his banker to a Russian man of business, that he might advise, if a document of that description were perfected in an official form, it would be effectual for the purpose intended; and further, that this draft found at his bankers was left unburnt, in consequence of his absence from Odessa.

Mr. Grenville-Murray explained that the medallion seal was affixed merely as a convenient mode of showing where the official seal would be placed.

Mr. Grenville-Murray said that he was aware that foreign Consuls had no jurisdiction in Russia.

The explanations were submitted to the Queen's Advocate, and on the 26th of April your Lordship invited further explanations from Mr. Grenville-Murray,|| who replied to your Lordship** that an impartial investigation must establish the accuracy of the account given by himself and Madame Tagliaferro (Inclosure No. 9).

With this information I entered on my inquiry at Odessa.

Mr. Grenville-Murray did not avail himself of the opportunity afforded him of being present, and I have not in any way received assistance from him.

I now respectfully submit to your Lordship the facts which came before me bearing on Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in this matter.

They are as follows:—

On ^{Sept. 30th}_{Oct. 12th}, 1866, Madame Tagliaferro instructed her agent at Berdiansk, Mr. Luca Carburi, by telegraph from Odessa, to accept an offer for the purchase of the property in question by Messrs. Tubino, for 11,500 silver roubles, on which telegram M. Carburi acted (Inclosure No. 10).

Madame Tagliaferro, in confirmation of her telegram, subsequently forwarded to M. Carburi, a written power of attorney dated the ^{10th}_{23rd} of October, before the President of the Chamber of Commerce (Inclosure No. 11).

On the ^{17th}_{19th} of October, Messrs. Tubino telegraphed their agents, Messrs. Raffalovitch, bankers at Odessa, to inform the English Consul that they (Messrs. Raffalovitch) were ready to honour Messrs. Tubino's bill for 11,000 roubles at sight as soon as the legal formalities for cession were accomplished for the purchase of the premises of the widow and heirs Tagliaferro, and on the next day, the ^{8th}_{20th} of October, this telegram was confirmed by letter (Inclosure No. 12).

In this letter Messrs. Tubino said that it appeared that Madame Tagliaferro was

* No. 91.

† No. 94.
‡ No. 98.

§ No. 96.

¶ Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

|| No. 99.

dependent on the English Consul for her proceedings on behalf of the heirs, and that that Consular authority had requested, through the widow's attorney, payment of the purchase money before forwarding the necessary documents.

They also request their agents to inquire by writing of the English Consul whether the widow, Margaret Tagliaferro, was authorized by that Consulate to alienate the property of the heirs, for although they were persuaded she might be so, they wished to have a legal document for greater security.

It would seem that this request was obeyed by Messrs. Raffalovich, and acceded to by Mr. Grenville-Murray; for, on the $\frac{13}{25}$ th October, Messrs. Raffalovich acknowledged by letter (Inclosure No. 13) the receipt from Mr. Grenville-Murray of four documents relating to the affair, and two days later they wrote (Inclosure No. 14) to Mr. Grenville-Murray that in accordance with his instructions contained in his note of the day before (Inclosure No. 15) they had sent these documents to Messrs. Tubino at Berdiansk.

I was informed by one of the Messrs. Raffalovich that these documents were the certificate in Russian (Inclosure No. 7), two documents relating to proceedings before the Maltese Tribunals (Inclosures Nos. 16 and 17), and a copy of the power of attorney to Mr. Carburi (Inclosure No. 11).

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the certificate in Russian called by Mr. Grenville-Murray an undated draft, and by Madame Tagliaferro a brouillon (Inclosure No. 19).

The person who made this copy certifies that it was written by him in October 1866 in the house Lüders (Mr. Grenville-Murray's private residence), in the presence of Mr. Grenville-Murray and Madame Margaret Tagliaferro, and that he copied it from a brouillon, composed by his master, Mr. Serebrini, a sworn advocate of the Tribunal of Commerce.

The paper was supplied by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and bears the same watermarks as does the inclosed document (Inclosure No. 20) issued from the Consulate at Odessa in 1864.

This person does not recollect the exact date in October 1866, on which he copied it.

Your Lordship will, however, call to mind that Messrs. Raffalovich acknowledged the receipt of it on the $\frac{13}{25}$ th October (Inclosure No. 13), some days after the date of the petition referred to in the certificate in Russian.

On the $\frac{19}{31}$ th October, 1866, Mr. Grenville-Murray, in a letter in English (inclosure No. 21), requested Messrs. Raffalovich to forward the 11,000 roubles due from Messrs. Tubino, to the Tagliaferro heirs, to his account with Messrs. Coutts and Co., Bankers, London, as soon as they receive the same.

The next day Mr. Grenville-Murray left Odessa on leave of absence, and in a few weeks later Madame Tagliaferro also left Odessa.

On ^{Oct. 22nd}_{Nov. 3rd} Messrs. Tubino wrote to Messrs. Raffalovich a letter (Inclosure No. 22), of which the following is an extract:—

“Among the documents you forwarded to us respecting the Tagliaferro premises, we note in the Act for authorization to sell, delivered by the English Consul at Odessa to the widow Tagliaferro, that the signature is not legalized by any of the local authorities there.

“Doubting that we shall very likely have to encounter difficulties at Kertch on that account, we send it back to you in a separate parcel post-paid, begging you will cause it to be invested with that formality, and then speedily sent to Kertch to our agent, Mr. John Deopik, at that place.

“We likewise observe, that there exists neither an Act (deed) of property, nor a draught of the premises, which we beg you will be so kind as to require of the widow or the English Consul, as well as any other document they may possess, sending them to us at Kertch to the address of our said agent.

“As soon as these documents are sent, please to advise us by wire, that we may repair to Kertch per first steamer, to finish the deed of purchase.

“We note also, that in the document we return there is no Consular oil stamp (meaning official seal), and not knowing whether such a mode is regular, it is also on that account that we beg you will please to have it proved to be true.”

Some further correspondence ensued, and on the ^{20th November}_{2nd December}, Messrs. Tubino wrote to Messrs. Raffalovich as follows (Inclosure No. 23):—

“Our agent at Kertch, Mr. Deopik, advises the receipt of the Consular certificate, and the returning of it to you for the legalization of the signature of the Consul.

“As that certificate needs to be rectified in the enumerations of the draft of the premises, we believe that it ought to be made again, on which we beg you will kindly concert with the widow, Tagliaferro, and with the English Consulate, in order to remove any difficulty to the completion of that affair.”

On the ^{20th November}_{8th December}, Messrs. Raffalovich wrote to Messrs. Tubino, that Mr. Deopik had

returned the document referred to, but that they could not get it legalized as the Consul was absent, and, moreover, would return no more, his Government having destined him for another post.

They, consequently, requested that all the other documents be returned, since, as Messrs. Tubino could do nothing with them, Messrs. Raffalovich were bound to return them to those from whom they had received them (Inclosure No. 24).

I have endeavoured to lay before your Lordship the material circumstances bearing on this case which came before me as having occurred in Russia.

Standing alone, they perhaps throw but little light on this inquiry; and as the correspondence between Messrs. Tubino and Messrs. Raffalovich may also appear to your Lordship to have but slight connection with the proceedings of Mr. Grenville-Murray in Russia, I beg respectfully to inform your Lordship that although I have made use of this correspondence for the purpose of the narrative, I have also considered that it will enable your Lordship the better to form an opinion on the proceedings of Mr. Grenville-Murray, in concert with Madame Tagliaferro and M. Carburì, in London, in February 1867.

For similar reasons, I have also given the substance of Mr. Grenville-Murray's explanations, into the correctness of which, and of Madame Tagliaferro's statements, he has challenged inquiry.

I beg further to submit that the correspondence shows that Messrs. Tubino looked on the authority to Madame Tagliaferro to sell the property as a complete instrument, and not simply as a brouillon, or undated draft.*

Your Lordship will recollect that, on the ^{25th January} ~~6th February~~, 1867, Messrs. Tubino wrote the letter to the Consulate-General at Odessa, inclosed in Mr. Stevens' despatch (Inclosure No. 6), stating that this certificate required to be rectified, and expressing their surprise at delay.

At this time Mr. Grenville-Murray, Madame Tagliaferro, and M. Carburì (Madame Tagliaferro's agent) were in London, and on the 18th of February, Mr. Grenville-Murray made an appointment at the Russian Consulate-General for the next day.

On the 18th of February, Mr. Grenville-Murray also wrote from London to Messrs. Raffalovich, in Odessa, as follows (Inclosure No. 25):—

“Messieurs,

“Je vous prie de vouloir bien envoyer à Kertch à M. Jean Deopik, pour être remis à M. Luca Carburì, les documents en votre possession concernant la vente de la Maison Tagliaferro, à Berdiansk, et de passer le frais de poste au compte de M. Tubino.

“Agréez, &c.

(Signé)

“E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

“Consul-Général d'Angleterre pour les Ports de la Mer Noire et la Mer d'Asov.”

On the same day (18th February) Madame Tagliaferro informed Messrs. Tubino, by letter, that she considered the sale of her premises at Berdiansk in perfect order; that the document of the English Consul-General at Odessa, Mr. Grenville-Murray, was only issued after the consent of the guardians, as they will find out from the Malta papers in their possession; and that, in consequence of Mr. Grenville's absence from Odessa, the authorities there made difficulties respecting that document, there not being the means of largely bribing (greasing) them.

That lady went on to say that, to remedy this and bring the affair to an end, she had taken proper steps to have *another document* made by the Russian Consul in London, and that, together *with the old one* in the possession of M. Raffalovich, she hoped the affair would soon be finished.

Madame Tagliaferro added that this document will be given to M. Carburì, her agent, to whom would be given the power to retire the one with Messrs. Raffalovich.

Messrs. Tubino are, in the same letter, requested to remit immediately the purchase-money to Mr. Grenville-Murray, according to the instructions left with them, as soon as the formalities are finished, and they have become regular owners of the property (Inclosure No. 26).

On the ^{22nd February} ~~6th March~~, 1867, Messrs. Tubino informed Messrs. Raffalovich that they had just received, at Berdiansk, a telegram from Madame Tagliaferro, from London, to the effect that Carburì had set out for Kertch, with necessary documents to finish purchase of premises, which was not feasible through Stevens (Inclosure No. 27).

On the 10th of March, M. Carburì wrote from Naples to Messrs. Tubino, saying that he had forgotten to advise them before that he was the bearer of a new document from the British Consul of Odessa, Mr. Murray, made in London, and legalized by the Consul-

* Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

General of Russia, and that Mr. Murray had written to Messrs. Raffalovich to send the *old document* to Kertch to M. Deopik, so that *with the new one* he could complete the sale of the property (Inclosure No. 28).

I respectfully submit to your Lordship that the letter of Madame Tagliaferro of the 18th of February, 1867,* is inconsistent with that lady's statement, six weeks subsequently,† that the document in Russian was a brouillon, and that M. Carburi, writing from Naples, could not have supposed that Mr. Grenville-Murray looked upon it as an undated draft.

The contents of the letters of Mr. Grenville-Murray, Madame Tagliaferro, and M. Carburi are scarcely consistent with the statement of Mr. Grenville-Murray, on the 8th April following, that this document was only left unburnt in the hands of his bankers in consequence of his absence from Odessa.

One of the documents of which M. Carburi was bearer is a certificate in English in Mr. Grenville-Murray's handwriting, with his official description added, with a blue medallion wafer bearing the Royal Arms affixed in the usual place where the seal is affixed in official Consular documents, and on the contrary side of the signature to that on which the seal is placed in private legal instruments under seal in England.

I give this document in full (Inclosure No. 29):—

“Whereas Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro, widow of the late Simon Tagliaferro, a British subject residing at Odessa, acting both on her own part and as trustee and guardian for her infant children, has alleged valid and sufficient reasons for the sale of certain houses and property situated Zelonja Oolitza, Nos. 1, 8, and 9, Quartel 43, at Berdiansk, in the Empire of Russia, I hereby authorize and consent to the said sale; as co-trustee with Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro, for the said property, on condition that the purchase-money shall be paid to the joint account of Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro and myself, through Messrs. Raffalovich, Bankers, at Odessa.

“Witness my hand and seal, London, this nineteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

(Signed) “E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

“*Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian Ports in the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff.*”

(Blue Medallion Wafer with
Royal Arms affixed.)

A certificate in Russian, under the hand and official seal of the Consul-General for Russia in London, is added.

This certificate is merely to the genuineness of Mr. Grenville-Murray's signature.

The seal is not referred to, and the Clerk at the Russian Consulate who attended to this matter does not recollect if it was affixed at the time or not.

The other document given to M. Carburi was probably a confirmation of the power of attorney given to him in October 1866, as Madame Tagliaferro was identified at the Russian Consulate-General by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and had her signature to such a document attested there.

Shortly after my arrival in Odessa one of the Messrs. Tubino came there, and placed Mr. Stevens in possession of the documents and copies of the correspondence.

I found no traces of this particular transaction with the property of the children of Simon Tagliaferro in the archives of the Consulate.

There is evidence that on other occasions Mr. Grenville-Murray has intervened in matters connected with the property now in question in his official capacity as Her Majesty's Consul-General (Inclosure No. 30).

On more than one occasion Mr. Grenville-Murray has also claimed to be invested with a private legal right to direct the affairs of the children of Simon Tagliaferro, but I have been unable through any public source to ascertain by what authority he claims such right.

Mr. Grenville-Murray interested himself on behalf of Madame Tagliaferro in negotiations with the tenants; in directing how the rents should be remitted; in making inquiries respecting repairs; in receiving money for that purpose from the guardian of the children in Malta in an appeal to the authorities at Berdiansk to remove a sequestration of the property for non-payment of town dues, and in the sale of other property by Madame Tagliaferro there.

Mr. Consul Zohrab states that when he declined in 1865 to accept the sum of 1,434 roubles, placed to his credit at Mr. Mavracordato at Odessa, for the repairs of the Tagliaferro property at Berdiansk, Mr. Grenville-Murray told him that as he was one of

* Inclosure 26 in No. 156.

† Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

the executors or administrators, it would be sufficient to notify his intention of declining to him (Inclosure No. 31).

In the document dated the 19th February, 1867, Mr. Grenville-Murray authorizes and consents "to the said sale as co-trustee with Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro for the said property, on condition that the purchase-money be paid to the joint account of Mrs. Tagliaferro and myself."

Messrs. Tubino, in a private letter to their agents, Messrs. Raffalovich, dated $\frac{16}{28}$ th February, express their fears that they are not being dealt with in good faith.

They say that it seemed strange to them that a British Consular authority should lend his hand to such an act, thus placing his honour and position in jeopardy, and they expressed their determination to claim reimbursement of the expenses they had incurred, and to make known, through the Italian Consular authorities in London to the English Government, the deceit practised on them by one of its representatives (Inclosure No. 32).

It was further stated by Messrs. Tubino that they were requested, about the month of April last, to do away with the documents relating to sale (Inclosure No. 33).

I have brought the originals of these documents with me, but have undertaken to return them to Mr. Stevens, at Odessa, to be handed back to the agents of Messrs. Tubino.

Nearly a year had elapsed, when I left Odessa, since the contract for sale was made; but up to that time no authority had been produced by any qualified trustees, the guardian of the children at Malta, the Courts at Malta, or the proper Tribunals in Russia, to complete the purchase.

Although it has appeared to me unnecessary to encumber this report with proceedings in the Tribunals of Russia, or Malta, or to trace the title to the premises in question, I respectfully beg to inform your Lordship that I have caused the Records of the Maltese Tribunals to be searched, and have also taken opinion on legal questions, and caused necessary inquiries to be made in Russia.

The Tribunals at Malta do not seem to have assumed jurisdiction over the disposition of real property in Russia.

As I am advised, the Maltese Tribunals only appointed Madame Tagliaferro guardian over her children, "in that Island," as regarded their interest, not included in the guardianship of their uncle, Gerolamo Tagliaferro, under the will of the paternal grandfather, Biagio Tagliaferro, by which they were entitled to upwards of 10,000*l.* sterling.

In the capacity above mentioned Madame Tagliaferro became a party to certain proceedings in Malta, to represent the interests of her children in the liquidation and partition of the assets of a firm, of which her late husband was member (Inclosure No. 34).

An Act of Partition approved by the Court, dated 24th December, 1863, referred to in the certificate in Russian, dated October 1866 (Inclosure No. 7), was made by which one undivided moiety of the property in question at Berdiansk belonging to the other partners was ceded to the children of their father, Simon Tagliaferro, and to Madame Tagliaferro as their tutrix.

Madame Tagliaferro claimed for herself certain rights under English law, as the widow of a deceased intestate husband, a British subject.

It was admitted that the other undivided moiety belonged to her husband, Simon Tagliaferro, at his death intestate in Russia, where he was domiciled and all his children born.

Under the Russian law a widow would be entitled to one-seventh part, and the children to the other six-sevenths.

I think, therefore, that Madame Tagliaferro may have had some interest in the property, but small in proportion to that of her children, and not such an interest as would entitle her to sell it without the consent of the Russian Tribunal, which has jurisdiction over the property of minors.

Madame Tagliaferro would probably have had no difficulty in getting appointed tutrix of her children's property by this Tribunal.

In that capacity, however, she could not have sold the property without the consent of the Senate, and some mode would have been pointed out in which the purchase money belonging to the minors should be invested for their benefit (Inclosure No. 35).

I could not ascertain that Madame Tagliaferro ever made application to the Russian Tribunal with reference to the interests of her children in this property.

In 1864, that lady made application to the Tribunals at Kertch to be put into possession of the property at Berdiansk, which she stated in her petition had become the sole property of her children.

The Courts at Kertch returned the petition, and referred Mrs. Tagliaferro to Berdiansk (Inclosure No. 36).

I believe I have omitted to state that all the children, four in number, were born in Russia, where their father was domiciled, and died, in 1859.

I have the honour respectfully to submit the foregoing statement for your Lordship's consideration.

I feel conscious that many imperfections must be apparent, but I trust that the unprecedented nature of the case and the difficulties I have had to contend with may justify your Lordship in granting me a kind indulgence.

Marriages.

The fourth question is put as follows :—

A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Ullo,* a Maltese, for information as to the validity of a marriage certificate given to him by Mr. Grenville-Murray) as to the legality of Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in cases of marriage of British subjects at Odessa.

My Report on this question may be divided between the consideration of Mr. Grenville-Murray's observance of his duty to the Crown, as disclosed by his own record of his official acts, and from the information I derived from other sources.

An inspection of the register of marriages in the Consulate at Odessa at once convinced me of the necessity for the "Odessa Marriage Act, 1867,"† which at your Lordship's instance was passed in the last session of Parliament.

The irregularities appeared so numerous, and of so grave a character, that I thought it would be the better course to bring the register to England, and submit it to some authority whose opinion would have greater weight than my own.

I have the honour to submit to your Lordship the following opinion of the Registrar-General founded on the official acts of Mr. Grenville-Murray, as recorded by himself (Inclosure No. 37 A) :—

"To J. E. Wilkins, Esq.

"Sir,

"General Register Office, Somerset House,
November 29, 1867.

"In conformity with the desire of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs I have examined the documents transmitted to me by you connected with alleged irregularities on the part of Mr. E. C. G. Murray, Consul-General at Odessa, with respect to marriages of British subjects under Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, and for the information of Lord Stanley I proceed to make the following observations :—

"The irregularities appear to me to have been numerous, and of a very grave character.

"With respect to the marriage of N. A. Ullo and C. Cordich, registered as No. 11, and solemnized on the 23rd November, 1861, it is evident that the notice was received on the 23rd November, that the license was granted on that same day, and the marriage solemnized and registered on that same day.

"This is in direct contravention of the 3rd and 6th and 9th Sections of the Statute above-mentioned.

"The 18th Section of that Statute renders a Consul liable to the same penalties as a registrar in England and Wales.

"In England and Wales a registration officer issuing a license for marriage before the expiration of seven days after the entry of the notice is, under the 40th Section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, guilty of felony.

"Therefore, I hold that the Consul-General of Odessa, if he had been prosecuted within three years after the commission of this offence (6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, sec. 41), might have been convicted of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude.

"It also appears that the facts are not correctly recorded in the register.

"It is there stated that the marriage was solemnized in the British Consulate according to the rites of the Church of England, whereas it appears that that was not the case, and that the marriage was solemnized according to the rites of the Church of Rome in a Roman Catholic chapel.‡

"For this false entry, I hold that Mr. E. C. G. Murray might have been prosecuted under the 36th Section of 24 and 25 Vict., cap. 98, and, if convicted, might have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, or not less than three years.

"With respect to the marriage of L. Noonan and E. Vasalivia, registered as No. 13, and solemnized on the 5th October, 1862, it is evident that the notice was received on the 24th September, 1862, and license was granted on that same day in direct contravention of the 3rd and 6th Sections of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

* Page 124.

† Page 69.

‡ Nos. 105 and 107.

"Therefore, in this instance also, it appears to me that the Consul-General might have been proceeded against for felony.

"I have also, with much attention, investigated the marriage of John Dinsmore and E. Sonosky, registered as No. 18, and solemnized on the 17th of January, 1864.

"Also the marriage of W. Laney and S. Cramer, registered as No. 19, and solemnized on the 14th of September, 1865.

"Also the marriage of G. Goddard and Mary Vasilivia, registered as No. 20, and solemnized on the 18th of October, 1865.

"Also the marriage of R. F. Oakley and E. Fletcher, registered as No. 17, and solemnized on the 23rd of August, 1863.

"With respect to these four marriages, the irregularities committed are glaring, and in more than one instance may be held to be fatal to the validity of the marriage.

"I think it unnecessary to state at present the exact nature of these irregularities in detail, but they are of such a nature as to have rendered the Consul-General liable to heavy penalties.

"With respect to the certified copies of marriage transmitted to me here from Odessa, I have had constant occasion to complain of Mr. E. C. G. Murray's neglect of duty.

"Considering that for every marriage by licence in a Consulate the Consul receives the large fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, I think it unpardonable that he should habitually be guilty of irregularities rendering such marriages null and void, and subsequent issue illegitimate.

"British subjects in foreign countries, ignorant of the precise particulars required by law, naturally imagine that so high a functionary as a Consul-General, receiving a large salary, and an additional fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, would consider himself bound to see that his fellow-subjects were not deceived in a matter so important.

"It is also my duty to report that from January 1863 to December 1865, no Returns of Births or Deaths recorded at Odessa, in conformity with the letter from the Foreign Office of the 7th of November, 1849, have been transmitted to me here, although of births, twenty appear to have been registered.

"This is also a grave irregularity in direct contravention of the orders of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "GEORGE GRAHAM, Registrar-General."

It may not be necessary for me to enter into details of any irregularity or false entry not appearing on the face of the Register.

The case of the marriage William Laney with Sarah Cramer, however, requires special notice (No. 19 in Register).

The license was signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray's clerk, and the Marriage Register purports to be signed by "Simon Horowitz," who alleged he had authority to solemnize this marriage from Mr. Grenville-Murray.

I have made a special report on this case to your Lordship,* but at that time I had not the grounds for doubting whether M. Horowitz did sign the Register I now possess.

His name appears to me to be in the handwriting of a Mr. Lyon.

I have the honour to inclose a genuine signature of M. Horowitz (Inclosure) and two instances (Inclosure No. 39) of the name of Simon Horowitz in the handwriting of Mr. Lyon, for comparison with the Register.

It seems to me doubtful if this marriage was made valid by the "Odessa Marriage Act, 1867."

1st. It was not solemnized in the presence of Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray.

2nd. Was M. Horowitz duly authorized?

He was not reported by Mr. Grenville-Murray as having been left in charge, as Acting Consul-General, nor was his position confirmed by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and

3rd. Even if he did sign the Register, his official description is not stated.

No fees for the solemnization of marriages appear in the Fee Book.

Entries in Registers of Births and Deaths.

The fifth case is a question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Robertson for an amended certificate of the Registry of the birth of a child†) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings under the instructions issued from the Foreign Office, in registering births and deaths, and in issuing certificates of such Registry.

In this case I do not think it necessary to make a detailed Report, as I am decidedly of opinion that, except in one very grave instance, Mr. Grenville-Murray was to blame only so far as he may be considered blameable in having permitted his Clerk in almost all instances, from May 1863 until December 1865, to sign the Register of Births "for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General," and in not making the yearly returns as pointed out by the Registrar-General in an official letter of the 29th of November, 1867, in which he says, "that from January 1863 to December 1865 no returns of births, recorded at Odessa, in conformity with the letter from the Foreign Office of the 7th of November, 1849, have been transmitted to me here, although of births, twenty appear to have been registered."

An investigation of the particular instances brought to your Lordship's notice by Mr. Stevens, of mistakes in the registration of births and deaths, merely indicated misapprehension in one case and inadvertence in another.

There are two entries, however, in the Register of Births, each signed by the clerk, which require explanation.

On the 23rd August, 1863, Mr. Thomas Fairland Oakley and Miss Fletcher were married in the Consulate at Odessa, and the marriage certificate was signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

On 24th August, 1863, a female child is registered as born to these parents on that day at Steblow, in the Government of Kieff, several hundred miles distant from Odessa.

The father signed as the informant.

On the 9th November, 1863, a male child by the same parents is registered as born on the 10th October, 1863, forty-seven days after the birth of his sister.

The informant is M. Rouville, a witness at the marriage.

M. Rouville informed me that Mr. and Mrs. Oakley were first married by a pastor of the Lutheran Church, at a place called Smiela, and that in the autumn of 1862, Mr. Oakley wrote to him to register the birth of a child at the British Consulate at Odessa.

On making application, M. Rouville was told by Mr. Grenville-Murray that the marriage was not valid.

Mr. Grenville-Murray further stated that if Mr. and Mrs. Oakley would come to Odessa he would marry them, and some days after he would register the child.

On the 1st October, 1862,* Mr. Grenville-Murray asked for instructions from Earl Russell, whether the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley was valid, and on the 17th March,† 1863, was informed it was for them to take legal advice on that point.

In a despatch to Earl Russell of 4th December, 1862,‡ Mr. Grenville-Murray inquired if there are any means under the English law by which an illegitimate child could be legitimized; and in a despatch dated the 5th January, 1863, he was informed there was not.

A few months after these instructions were received Mr. and Mrs. Oakley came to Odessa, and were married at the Consulate, and their child was registered as born the day after at Steblow, several hundred miles off.

On the 9th November, a male child by the same parents is registered as born on the 10th October, forty-seven days after the birth of the first.

A fee of 2s. 6d. for each register is returned to Government.

I did not see Mr. Oakley, who I was told was temporarily engaged at a great distance from Odessa.

Fees.

The sixth case is a question (arising out of the circumstances brought to light by the above-mentioned cases) as to the levy of the fees at the Consulate.

"The fees are the property of Her Majesty's Government; and Consular officers charged with the duty of levying this revenue are not empowered to dispense with the payment of them, except under express instructions from the Secretary of State."§

I respectfully submit to your Lordship that the question as to whether all the fees were levied that should have been levied, and placed to the account of Her Majesty's Government, can be answered only by inference, and not by direct proof.

At the port of Odessa the British population is small, and the fees paid by them annually would be insignificant in amount.

The chief source of income from fees is in connection with the British merchant shipping trading with that port.

The majority of the fees leviable on the ships would depend on local regulations, the regulations of the ports they may touch at on their voyage, and on duties to be performed by the Consul when required by the parties interested.

* No. 21.

† No. 24.

‡ See Notes, pages 262 and 263.

§ No. 115, page 137.

Much would depend on the mode of conducting the Consular business on the Consul's advice, and the confidence placed in him.

There are, no doubt, instances in the course of several years, in which sums have been received, and not credited to the Government; but these amounts have been so insignificant that the omission can scarcely be attributed to anything more than negligence.

As the further instructions I have this day received from your Lordship* involve the question of fees, I submit, with great respect, that a full consideration of it would be better embodied in my reply to those instructions.

Mr. Grenville-Murray does not appear to have returned fees for passports or marriages.

Without entering into the probable reasons for the discrepancy here, I respectfully call your Lordship's attention to the returns of fees from the Consulate at Odessa to the Foreign Office, for the following periods:—

	£	s.	d.
By Consul-General Mathew in 1857	389	0	0
By Consul-General Grenville-Murray, from 1st July to 31st December, 1859..	80	13	9
" " " in year 1860	104	15	6
" " " " 1861	44	0	6
" " " " 1862	13	12	6
" " " " 1863	12	18	6
" " " " 1864	44	7	6
" " " " 1865	33	5	6
" " " from 1st January to 30th September, 1866	14	18	0
	£348	11	9

Being an average of less than 50% a-year.

By Acting Consuls-General, from 1st October to 31st December, 1866 ..	21	2	6
By Acting Consul-General Stevens, from 1st January to 30th September, 1867	205	10	6

As from matters arising incidentally from my instructions, it will be my duty to add a supplementary Report,* I now simply, with great respect, submit these results of my inquiry to your Lordship, with an expression of regret if any unseemly delay has occurred.

I have endeavoured to be impartial, although I may have erred in detail.

I trust your Lordship will afford me an opportunity of making a proper acknowledgment of any errors into which I may have fallen.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 156.

Messrs. A. and J. Vucina to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Odessa, October 15th, 1866.

WE, the Undersigned, do hereby solemnly declare that we have been British subjects, as our parents before us, and we therefore respectively request that you will be kind enough to deliver to us passports to show and prove our nationality.

We are, &c.

(Signed) ALEXANDER VUCINA.
JOHN VUCINA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 156.

Regulations respecting Passports.

1. APPLICATIONS for Foreign Office Passports must be made in writing and inclosed in cover addressed to "The Chief Clerk, Foreign Office, London," or to an Agent at one of the specified outports, with the word "PASSPORT" conspicuously written on the cover.

2. The charge on the issue of a Passport, whatever number of persons may be named in it, is 2s., which sum includes the stamp-duty of 6d.

3. Foreign Office Passports are granted only to British-born subjects, or to such foreigners as have become naturalized either by Act of Parliament or by a Certificate of Naturalization granted by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. When

* These did not relate to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

the party is a "Naturalized British subject," he will be so designated in his Passport; and if his Certificate of Naturalization be dated subsequently to the 24th of August, 1850, and previously to the 1st of August, 1858, his Passport will be marked as good for one year only; or should the Certificate be dated subsequently to the 1st of August, 1858, his Passport will in that case be marked as good for six months only; but this regulation will not preclude any person whom it affects from obtaining, at any future period, on his producing his old Passport, a fresh Passport, for a further limited period, without being required to pay a fresh charge.

4. A Foreign Office Passport granted to a British-born subject or to a "Naturalized British subject" whose Certificate of Naturalization is dated previously to August 24, 1850, is not limited in point of time, but is available for any time, or for any number of journeys to the Continent, *if countersigned afresh* by the Ministers or Consuls of the countries which the bearer intends to visit; but a Passport granted to a "Naturalized British subject" whose Certificate is dated subsequently to the 24th of August, 1850, is only available for the period for which the Passport was originally granted.

5. Passports are issued at the Foreign Office between the hours of eleven and four on the day following that on which the application for the Passport has been received at the Foreign Office; but the Passports will be issued at the outports immediately on application, accompanied by the production of a Certificate of Identity, within such hours as may be fixed with regard to the convenience of persons desirous of embarking for the Continent.

6. Passports are granted to all persons, either known to the Secretary of State or recommended to him by some person who is known to him; or upon the application of any *Banking Firm* established in London or in any other part of the United Kingdom; or upon the production of a Certificate of Identity signed by any Mayor, Magistrate, Justice of the Peace, Minister of Religion, Physician, Surgeon, Solicitor, or Notary, resident in the United Kingdom.

7. A Passport cannot be sent by the Foreign Office, or by an Agent at an outport, to a person already abroad; such person, being a British-born subject, should apply for one to the nearest British Mission or Consulate.

8. The bearer of every Passport granted by the Foreign Office should sign his Passport as soon as he receives it: without such signature either the *visa* may be refused, or the validity of the Passport questioned abroad. Travellers about to proceed to Russia, Turkey, and Portugal can have their Passports *visé* at the under-mentioned places respectively; for Russia, at the Russian Consulate, 32, Great Winchester-street; for Turkey, at the Turkish Embassy, 1, Bryanston-square; and for Portugal, at the Portuguese Consulate, 5, Jeffrey's-square. Travellers about to proceed to Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Prussia, Saxony, Spain, Sweden and Norway, or Wurtemberg, need not obtain the *visa* of the Diplomatic or Consular Agents of those countries respectively resident in the United Kingdom.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 156.

Extracts from the "Odessa Journal" of January 26 *1867.* February 7,

NOS lecteurs savent déjà que les Philhellènes d'Odessa, alarmés sur l'état de santé de M. St. Marc Girardin, lui ont envoyé un télégramme par l'entremise de M. J. Vucina. Aujourd'hui nous nous faisons un plaisir de publier la lettre que le célèbre Philhellène vient d'adresser à notre concitoyen M. J. Vucina:—

"M. Jean Vucina,

"Venise, le 19 Janvier, 1867.

"Je suis bien touché du sentiment qui vous a porté, vous et vos amis, à vous intéresser à ma santé. Dieu me l'a conservée jusqu'ici, et j'espère qu'il me la conservera encore quelque temps, puisque j'ai auprès de lui de si bons intercesseurs; mon ambition serait de vivre jusqu'à la première messe célébrée dans Sante Sophie. Si je ne suis pas destiné à voir ce beau jour, je suis sûr maintenant que mes enfants le verront, et si, ce jour-là, quelques patriotes Grecs, comme vous et vos amis, veulent bien croire que j'ai pu aider quelque peu à la restauration de la civilisation Chrétienne en Orient, c'en sera assez pour l'honneur de mon nom.

"Recevez, Monsieur, mes remerciements les plus affectueux et faites les agréer à vos

* Travellers who may have any intention of visiting the Russian Empire at any time in the course of their travels abroad, are particularly and earnestly advised not to quit England without having had their Passports *visé* at the Russian Consulate in London.

amis. Je suis inébranlablement attaché à la cause Grecque en Orient ; je le suis par vieille conviction ; je dois l'être aussi maintenant par reconnaissance après le témoignage précieux d'intérêt que j'ai reçu de vous et de vos compatriotes.

"Croyez, &c.

(Signé) "ST. MARC GIRARDIN."

M. le Rédacteur,

Le journal Français de St. Pétersbourg dans son No. 10 publie une dépêche datée d'Athènes du $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{3}$ Janvier, par laquelle il fait connaître la soumission de l'Ile de Crète. Cette dépêche est mal fondée, car une dépêche officielle du $\frac{1}{2}\frac{5}{7}$ Janvier, plus fraîche de quatre jours, contient ce qui suit :—

"Athènes, le $\frac{1}{2}\frac{5}{7}$ Janvier.

"Nouvelle attaque Mustapha Pacha contre Agia (Sainte) Rumeli vigoureusement repoussée. Insurrection provinces est prospère et s'étend."

Du reste par les bateaux Russes "Mogoutchi" et "Oleg," qui viennent d'entrer Dimanche passé (22 courant) dans notre port de leur voyage de Constantinople, nous avons déjà reçu détails assez satisfaisants sur notre dépêche sus-mentionnée.

Je vous prie, par conséquent, M. le Rédacteur, de vouloir bien insérer dans votre prochain numéro ma présente lettre, pour rétablir la vérité, et vous obligerez votre dévoué,

(Signé) JEAN G. VOUTZINA.

Odessa, le 25 Janvier, 1867.

Inclosure 3 A in No. 156.

Original Passports granted to Messrs. Vucina.

(No. 269.)

Passport.—Gratis.

By James Perkins, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff.

THESE are to request and to require whomsoever it may concern to allow Mr. John Vucina, a British subject travelling on the Continent, to pass freely without let or hinderance, and to afford him aid and protection in case of need.

Given at Odessa, this 1st day of November, 1866.

(Bearer's signature.)

(Signed)

JAS. PERKINS,
Acting Consul-General.

(No. 268.)

Passport.—Gratis.

By James Perkins, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General for the Russian ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff.

These are to request and to require whomsoever it may concern to allow Mr. Alexander Vucina, a British subject, travelling on the Continent, to pass freely without let or hinderance, and to afford him aid and protection in case of need.

Given at Odessa, this 1st day of November, 1866.

(Bearer's signature.)

(Signed)

JAS. PERKINS,
Acting Consul-General.

Inclosure 4 in No. 156.

Messrs. Furness and Co. to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Dear Sir,

36, Great George Street, Westminster, March 16, 1867.

I AM informed by my agent at Odessa that in 1862, 1863, and 1864 copies of contracts and other documents of an important nature, inclosed in a japanned tin box, were deposited with you at Odessa, as Consul-General at that place, and that upon applying at the Consulate to the gentleman acting in your absence, neither the documents

above referred to nor the box can now be found, and he has since ascertained that the box, which is marked "G. F. & Co.," has been brought to London by steamer.

I must therefore now call your particular attention to this matter, and beg to say that unless I hear from you, and have the box and the documents that were contained therein handed over to me in the course of a few days, I shall be under the painful necessity of laying a statement of the matter before the proper authorities at the Foreign Office.

For George Furness,

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEO. BOND.

Inclosure 5 in No. 156.

Questions asked of and Answers given by M. Antonne, in Mr. Charlton's Office in Odessa, in the presence of Mr. Charlton and Mr. Kuhl, October 5, 1867.

Q. 1. WHY did you take the contract to the British Consul-General?—A. Because Mr. Furness was an Englishman, and I had business with him. I believed that the contract should be registered at the British Consulate, and that in case of dispute, loss, or destruction of the original, the evidence would be there.

Q. 2. Would you have registered a contract with a person of another nationality at his Consulate?—A. Yes.

Q. 3. Why did you get Mr. Smith's signature certified at the French Consulate?—A. To prove that it was registered in the English Consulate, that in case of a process with Mr. Furness the French Embassy in London could take my part.

Q. 4. Did Mr. Consul Grenville-Murray take, or did you give him, a copy of this contract?—A. I gave him a copy at his request, and he examined it with me to see if it was exact, and when he found it so he rang the bell, and Mr. Smith came, to whom he gave the contract and told him to "register" it; Mr. Smith took it and brought it back, when Mr. Murray put on the seal himself. This was in house Stiffel (Ceschine's). He went to the desk which stood in his cabinet, and took out the wafer seal.

Q. 5. If you wanted the certified copy what would you do?—A. I should go to the British Consulate and ask for it, and I should expect to find it there.

Q. 6. If you did not find it there what should you do?—A. I should be very surprised. It is not possible I should not find it.

Copy of Certificate of Registration endorsed on original of M. Antonne's Contract, with Medallion Wafer in place of Official Seal, referred to in the Answer of Mr. Antonne.

Government fee, 2s. 6d. No. 38.

I hereby certify that the above document was presented this day at Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General for registration, and a copy thereof duly deposited.

By order,

(Signed) T. G. SMITH,

For Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

British Consulate-General, Odessa, May 26, 1863.

(Red medallion, as in the certificate in Russian, called by Mr. Grenville-Murray an "undated draft." See report on Question No. 3.)

Vu au Consulat de France à Odessa, pour légalisation de la signature à contre de Mr. T. Smith, employé au Consulat-Général d'Angleterre en cette résidence.

Le Chancelier,

(Signé) F. B. SAURON.

Odessa, le 26 Mai, 1863.

No. 202, Art. 858, of the Tariff: price 12/60.

Inclosure 6 in No. 156.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to Lord Stanley, February 26, 1867.

[See No. 89 and Inclosure.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 156.

Certificate issued to Madame Tagliaferro empowering her to sell the Property of her Children at Berdiansk.

[In Russian. See Inclosure 5 in No. 89.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 156.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley, April 8, 1867.

[See No. 96.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 156.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley, April 30, 1867.

[See No. 99.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 156.

Contract made by Mr. Luca Carburì, for Mrs. Tagliaferro, with Messrs. Tubino.

IO, Sottoscritto, Luca Carbury, in qualità di procuratore della vedova Signora Margheritta Tagliaferro, in forza del dispaccio 30 Settembre scorso, così formato :—

“Luca Carburì, Berdiansk.

“Accetto 11,500 rubli argenti; subito pagamento, Odessa. Documenti, procura, spedirò posta.

(Firmato) “MARGHERITTA TAGLIAFERRO.”

Vendo a questi Signori Fratelli Tubino lo stabile grande coi magazzini, in facciata della chiesa Cattolica, casa e tutte le altre sue adiacenze di proprietà della stessa Signora Tagliaferro, al prezzo di 11,500 rubli, pagabili in Odessa, tosto effettuate tutte le formalità inerenti alla cessione legale dello stesso stabile.

I magazzini di facciata restano da quest'oggi alla disposizione dei compratori Signori Tubino, mentre il piccolo magazzino affittato precedentemente al Signor G. Cuppa; dovranno riceverlo soltanto alla fine di Maggio anno venturo 1867. Così pure la casa affittata al Signor John Dessin avranno a riceverla il primo del mese di Luglio stesso anno.

Le spese di tutte le tasse Governative restano a carico del venditore.

A titolo di caparra ricevuta 300 rubli argenti.

Berdiansk, addì $\frac{4}{16}$ Ottobre, 1866.

Procura dalla Sgra. M. Tagliaferro,
(Firmato) LUCA CARBURI.

Più ricevetti da detti Signori Fratelli Tubino 330 rubli argenti, dei quali 230 rubli per mio commission della vendita del stabile, e 100 rubli acconto affitto da incassare del Signor John Dessin; restando a mio credito 350 rubli, da regolarsi il conto dopo diffinita la vendita di detto stabile.

Berdiansk, 29 Ottobre, 1866.

(Firmato) LUCA CARBURI.

(Translation.)

I, the Undersigned, Luca Carburì, in my capacity of agent of the widow, Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro, by virtue of the despatch of the 30th September last, thus conceived (as follows) :—

“Luca Carburì, Berdiansk,

“I accept 11,500 silver roubles; immediate payment, Odessa. Documents, power of attorney, I will send by post.

(Signed) “MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.”

I sell to Messrs. Tubino Brothers the large premises with warehouses opposite to the Catholic Church-house, and all the other appurtenances of the said Mrs. Tagliaferro, for

the price of 11,500 roubles, payable at Odessa, as soon as all the formalities necessary for the legal cession of said premises shall be accomplished. The warehouses in front are from this day to be at the disposal of the buyers, Messrs. Tubino, whilst the little warehouse previously let to Mr. G. Cuppa, they (Messrs. Tubino) shall receive only at the end of May, next year, 1867. Likewise the house let to Mr. John Dessin they shall receive on the 1st of July of the same year.

The expenses of all the Government taxes are at expense of the seller. As advance money, I have received 300 silver roubles.

Berdiansk, October 1st, 1866.

By power of attorney of Mrs. M. Tagliaferro.*

(Signed) LUCA CARBURI.

Moreover, I have received from said Messrs. Tubino Brothers 330 roubles, of which 220 roubles are for my commission on the sale of the premises, and 100 roubles on account of rent to be received from Mr. John Dessin; remaining to my credit 350 roubles, the account of which is to be arranged after the completion of the sale of said premises.†

Berdiansk, October 29, 1866.

(Signed) LUCA CARBURI.

Inclosure 11 in No. 156.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Luca Carburi.

[In Russian.]

(Translation.)

Mr. Luca Carburi,

THE house, with a magazine with buildings and yard, belonging to my children, Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arseni, and Alberto, in the town of Berdiansk, in forty-third quartal on the Zelenoi Street, under Nos. 1 and 10, I, as tutrix over the property of my aforesaid children, with the permission of the British Consul-General at Odessa, have sold to the merchant in Berdiansk, Italian subject, Tubino, for the sum of 11,500 silver roubles; and therefore by this I empower you, Sir, to make for the house with magazine, with buildings and yard, in my name, as tutrix over my children, in the name of Mr. Tubino, a title-deed, to sign such, and to receive from whom you are to receive it, the aforesaid sum for the house and buildings, magazine and yard, sold to him; therefore, for this purpose, all kinds of papers in tribunals and Government places in my name to sign and present.

I trust you entirely, and all that you may in this way lawfully do I will not controvert nor contradict.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) MARGARET (daughter of Felix) TAGLIAFERRO,
British Subject.

Odessa, October 10, 1866.

This power of attorney belongs to the merchant of Berdiansk, Luca Carburi.

Year 1866, October 10.—The Tribunal of Commerce of Odessa, by virtue of Statute 2,308, tenth volume, first part of Civil Code, edited in the year 1857, certifies this power of attorney was autographically signed by the British subject, Margaret Tagliaferro, and given to the merchant of Berdiansk, Luca Carburi. The original was signed by

A. MITKOFF, *President.*

VERESTCHIAGIN, *Secretary.*

SIMONOWITCH, *Inspector.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 156.

Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich.

Berdiansk, 8 Ottobre, 1866.

IERI ebbimo a dispiacervi come segue:—

“Piaciavi prevenire prontamente Console Inglese, Odessa, essere pronto estinguere

* N.B.—Up to this point the handwriting is that of Mr. Tubino.—J. E. W.

† All in Mr. Carburi's handwriting.—J. E. W.

nostra cambiale rubli 11,000 a presentazione, che rilascienemo tosto effettuate formalità legale cessione per soldo dell'acquisto stabile della vedova ed eredi Tagliaferro. Lettera domani avrete istruzioni, vostro rimborso.—T.”

Per dilucidarvi su di ciò, noi diremo che veniamo d'acquistare lo stabile della vedova eredi Tagliaferro di costa, sito in questa pella complessiva somma di rubli 11,500. La Signora Vva. Margherita Tagliaferro, a quanto sembra, dependendo da questo Consolo Inglese sul suo operato a finò degli eredi, e non conoscendovi sufficientemente quella autorità Consolare, ci faceva chiedere per l'organo che procuratore della vedova telegraficamente il pagamento anticipato di rubli 11,000. pria di spedire i documenti opportuni, onde quella proprietà venisse passata a nostra nome: questo è adunque il motivo che vi stanciammo quel nostro dispaccio, persuasi nella vostra gentilezza che avrete attemperato ai nostri desideri nell'assicurare quell'autorità Consolare dell'onore che avreste fatto alla cambiale che avremmo spiccato su di voi, Signori, a vista, all'ordine del Consolo medesimo, e così posti nel caso entrambi di far spedire fiduciosamente i documenti in discorso per la definizione completa d'un tanto nostro acquisto.

Veniamo ancora rivolgervi altra preghiera, e sarebbe quella di chiedere per iscritto al Signore Consolo Inglese se la vedova Margherita Tagliaferro è autorizzata di quel Consolato di potere alienare la proprietà degli eredi. Quantunque siamo persuasi che essa lo possa essere, nullameno bramarissimo a maggior nostra cautela averne un documento legale. Siate tanto compiaciuto di dispiacere in oggi guisa a questo riguardo.

(Translation.)

Berdiansk, October $\frac{8}{20}$, 1866.

We had yesterday to telegraph you as follows:—

“Please immediately inform English Consul, Odessa, of your being ready to honour our bill of 11,000 roubles at sight, as soon as legal formalities for cession are accomplished for the purchase of the premises of the widow and heirs Tagliaferro.

“To-morrow by letter, instructions and your reimbursement.—T.”

To enlighten you on that subject, we will state that we have just purchased the premises of the widow and heirs Tagliaferro in this place for the total sum of 11,500 roubles. The widow, Margaret Tagliaferro, being, as it appears, dependent on the English Consul for her proceedings in behalf of the heirs, and that Consular authority not knowing us sufficiently, had us requested through the organ of the widow's attorney, telegraphically for the payment beforehand of the 11,000 roubles, before forwarding the necessary documents in order that the said premises might be passed into our name.

This is the motive for which we started the above telegram, in the persuasion that you will have kindly complied with our wishes by assuring the above-mentioned Consular authority of your readiness to honour the bill we should have drawn on you at sight to the order of the said Consul himself, which would have enabled you to have, [he?] trusting to your assurance, forwarded to us the documents for the final completion of our purchase.

We have also to apply to you for another request, which is that you should inquire by writing of the said English Consul whether the widow Margaret Tagliaferro is authorized by that Consulate to alienate the property of the heirs.

Though we are persuaded she may be so, we would nevertheless wish to have thereon, as a greater security, a legal document.

At all events, be kind enough to telegraph us in that respect.

(Signed)

TUBINO.

Inclosure 13 in No. 156.

Messrs. Raffalovich to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

M. le Consul-Général,

Odessa, le $\frac{13}{25}$ Octobre, 1866.

NOUS avons l'honneur de vous dire que nous avons reçu de Messrs. Tubino Frères de G., à Berdiansk, le télégramme suivant:

“Piaciavi prevenire prontamente Consolato Inglese, Odessa, essere pronto estinguire nostra cambiale rubli 11,000 a presentazione che rilascienemo tosto effettuate formalità legale cessione per soldo dell'acquisto stabile della vedova eredi Tagliaferro.”

Vous nous avez remis quatre documents concernant cette affaire; par la présente nous vous déclarons prêtes à acquitter pour compte de Messrs. Tubino Frères le mandat de 11,000 roubles aussitôt que la lettre de vente pour le dit immeuble sera faite. Nous ferons ce paiement de 11,000 roubles entre vos propres mains.

Recevez, &c.

(Translation.)

Mr. Consul-General,

Odessa, October $\frac{13}{5}$, 1866.

WE have the honour to inform you that we have received from Messrs. Tubino Brothers di Giacomi of Berdiansk the following telegram:—

(See letter Tubino, 8th October, 1866. Inclosure No. 12.)

You have handed us four documents respecting that affair; by the present we declare ourselves ready to honour on account of Messrs. Tubino Brothers the bill of 11,000 roubles as soon as the deed of sale of said premises is made.

We shall make that payment of 11,000 roubles into your own hands.

Inclosure 14 in No. 156.

Messrs. Raffalovich to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Le $\frac{15}{7}$ Octobre, 1866.

CONFORMEMENT aux instructions que vous nous avez données par vos lignes d'hier, nous avons expédiée aujourd'hui sous pli chargé à Messrs. Tubino Frères à Berdiansk les documents en question.

Recevez, &c.

(Translation.)

October $\frac{15}{7}$, 1866.

IN accordance with the instructions you gave us by your note of yesterday, we have sent to-day in an insured packet to Messrs. Tubino of Berdiansk the documents already mentioned.

Inclosure 15 in No. 156.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Mr. H. Raffalovich.

Cher M. Herman Raffalovich,

Maison Lüders, $\frac{14}{6}$ Octobre, 1866.

AYEZ la bonté d'expédier aujourd'hui même à M. Tubino à Berdiansk tous les documents que j'ai déposés chez vous pour la vente du bien de Madame Tagliaferro.

Mille amitiés,

(Signe)*

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

P.S.—Je n'ai pas reçu le poignard du Caucase pour Madame.

Inclosure 16 in No. 156.

Addi ventiquattro Dicembre, mille otto cento sessantatre (1863).

COLLA morte del Signor Simone Tagliaferro, avvenuta in Odessa, in data ^{dove ventuno} Giugno, mille otto cento cinquante nove, ebbe luogo la risoluzione della società di commercio sotto la firma di "Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli," per ciò che concerne l'interesse di esso Signor Simone Tagliaferro. Successivamente seguì la morte del detto Signor Biagio Tagliaferro con testamento pubblicato negli atti del Signor Notaro Annunziato Frendo Micallet in data del tredici Dicembre, mille otto cento sessanta due, nel quale nominò il Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro, uno dei suoi figli ed eredi, in curatore ed amministratore delle quote che ai figli del detto fù Signor Simone Tagliaferro pervenivano in forza dello stesso testamento.

La Signora Margherita, vedova del detto Simone Tagliaferro, venne quì in Malta da Odessa, luogo di domicilio di lei, dei suoi figli e del detto Simone, onde sistemare e liquidare gl'interessi dei detti suoi figli ancora minorenni, ed a questo effetto avanzò un ricorso innanzi la Second'Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà, col quale ha domandato la di lei conferma in tutrice e curatrice dei detti di lei figli; ma la detta Corte, in seguito all'aver ordinato in data del primo Maggio, mille otto cento sessantatre, che di quel ricorso fosse notificato il detto Signor Gerolamo Tagliaferro in vista del suddetto incarico risultante dal testamento paterno, ed in conseguenza della risposta del medesimo Signor Girolamo, colla quale domandava che la istanza contenuta nel detto ricorso fosse regolata dalla Corte secondo la legge e la volontà del detto testatore, non che a senso delle circostanze rilevate in quella risposta; la detta Second'Aula Civile si ripete, in date del venticinque Maggio, mille otto cento sessantatre, ha decretato che siccome risulta che i figli

minorenni del detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro, nella qualità di eredi dello stesso loro genitore, hanno degl'interessi da liquidare e definire in questa isola con la eredità del detto Signor Biagio Tagliaferro loro avo, sia spediente ch'eglino, quantunque domiciliati altrove, abbiano quì una persona che potesse legalmente a loro nome procedere a siffatta liquidazione e definizione, ha per gli effetti premessi nominato la detta Signora Margherita in curatrice di detti di lei figli minorenni, adempite le solite solemnità.

Dietro a siffatta abilitazione il detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro, in nome proprio qual' uno dei soci della cessata casa di commercio, e qual esecutore testamentario, ed il Signor Andrea Giovanni Calvacoressi, altro socio del terzo e quarto stabilimento, assieme con la detta Signora Margherita, vedova Tagliaferro, assistita dal Signor Alessandro Naudi da lei incaricato, divennero alla liquidazione degl'interessi della stessa ditta, in seguito di che la medesima ha avanzato un altro ricorso alla detta Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà, col quale ha domandato che fosse autorizzata a definire e liquidare l'interesse sociale del detto fù Simone Tagliaferro suo marito nella detta ditta "Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli," e con qualunque altra persona avente interesse nella stessa, e la Corte con suo decreto del dì cinque del corrente Dicembre le acordò la domanda.

Finalmente la detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro ha avanzato un altro ricorso, nel quale ha iscritto la presente minuta, ed ha domandato che fosse abilitata di divenire alla sua riduzione in pubblica forma, e la detta Regia Corte, con suo decreto del dì undici Dicembre corrente, ha aderito a tale dimanda a condizione che la stipulazione di tale atto di liquidazione e quitanza si facesse coll'assistenza del Giudice della stessa Corte, e che prima di ciò il detto Signor Alessandro Naudi giurasse nelle mani del Registratore della stessa Corte di avere esaminato i detti conti e di essergli risultato di essere gli stessi giusti e legali; il che il detto Signor Naudi ha eseguito in data del sedici Dicembre corrente.

Quindi è, che innanzi l'Illustrissimo Dottor di Leggi, Francesco Fiteni, uno dei Giudici di Sua Maestà sedente nella Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà, all'atto presente prestante la sua assistenza, ed alla presenza di me Notaro Antonio Micallef, residente di studio nella città Valletta, Strada San Paolo, al numero dugento ventotto duplicato, e degli appié firmati testimoni aventi i requisiti voluti dalla legge si sono costituiti personalmente;

Il Signor negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro, oriundo Genovese, nativo della città Senglea, dimorante nella città Valletta, tanto in nome proprio quale uno dei soci della ditta di commercio sotto la firma di Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, quanto in qualità di esecutore testamentario del detto fù negoziante Biagio Tagliaferro suo padre, altro socio della stessa ditta, nominato ed anche autorizzato a transigere e liquidare, nel testamento solenne pubblicato negli atti del Signor Notaro Annunziato Frendo Micallef in data del tredici Dicembre, mille otto cento sessanta due, confermato in tale incarico con decreto della detta Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà datato il venti Dicembre, mille otto cento sessanta due, da una parte;

Il Signor negoziante Andrea Giovanni Calvacoressi del fù Giovanni, nativo e dimorante nella città Valletta, per quel che riguarda il suo interesse nel terzo e quarto stabilimento della stessa ditta;

E la detta Signora Margherita, vedova del fù negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, nativo della città Senglea, cessato di vivere in Odessa, figlio del detto fù negoziante Biagio, figlia del defonto cavaliere Felice De Ribas, nativa e domiciliata in Odessa, ritrovantesi quì in Malta, dimorante nella città Valletta, nella premessa sua qualità di curatrice speciale dei Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, Alberto, di lei figli minorenni-eredi del detto loro genitore Simone Tagliaferro, altro socio nel primo, secondo e terzo stabilimento della medesima ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, e così per quel solo interesse nominata dalla detta Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà in forza dei suscitati due Decreti del 25 Maggio, 1863, e 5 Dicembre corrente, non che del citato altro Decreto facoltativo a stipolare il presente atto, dalla altro parte; tutti da me predetto Notaro conosciuti.

La detta Signora Margherita, vedova Tagliaferro, a nome premesso dichiara di avere esaminato attentamente, per mezzo del Signor Alessandro Naudi, persona di sua fiducia da lei scelta, e di avere ben compreso il conto resale dal detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro nei nomi premessi della detta società di commercio sotto la firma di Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, comprendente tre stabilimenti, liquidati al trentuno Marzo, mille otto cento settantuno, che sono:—

Il primo stabilimento incominciato il diciotto Gennaro, mille otto cento quaranta nove, e terminato il trentuno Dicembre, mille otto cento cinquanta cinque, nel quale erano soci a parti uguali i Signori Biagio Tagliaferro, Giacomo Tagliaferro, Girolamo Tagliaferro, e Simone Tagliaferro, e presenta nel conto di liquidazione di esso Simone Tagliaferro colla ditta un di lui credito di scudi mille tre, tari cinque, e grani sedici (1003 : 5 : 16), accreditatigli nel conto di liquidazione col quarto stabilimento;

Il secondo stabilimento incominciato il primo Gennaro, mille otto cento cinquanta sei, al trentuno Dicembre, mille otto cento cinquantotto, nel quale erano soci i detti Biagio Tagliaferro, Girolamo Tagliaferro, e Simone Tagliaferro, colla partecipazione di un terzo a cada uno di loro, e col conto di liquidazione degl'interessi del detto fù Simone Tagliaferro con la detta ditta, dal quale risultano da lui dovute lire sterline due cento cinquantotto, scellini tre, danari sette (258l. 2s. 7d.), addebitategli nel conto col quarto stabilimento;

Il terzo stabilimento principiato il primo Aprile, mille otto cento cinquantotto e terminato il trenta Giugno, mille otto cento cinquanta nove, in cui erano soci i detti Signori Biagio Tagliaferro, Girolamo Tagliaferro, colla partecipazione di ventotto centesimi per cada uno di loro, ed il Signor Andrea Giovanni Calvocoressi per i restanti sedici centesimi, col conto di liquidazione di esso Simone Tagliaferro con la detta ditta, dal quale un di lui credito di lire sterline nove cento venti due, scellini cinque, danari cinque e un grano (922l. 2s. 5d.), accreditategli nel conto di liquidazione col questo stabilimento.

In fine contiene il conto della liquidazione generale dei detti stabilimenti primo, secondo, e terzo coi soci del quarto stabilimento, del quale conto risulta un debito di esso Simone Tagliaferro di lire sterline settantatre, scellini diciotto, danari otto ed un grano, a bilancio finale di tutti gl'interessi sociali, conforme il tutto risulta dai detti conti, i quali per gli effetti della legge vengano da essi signori contraenti presentati a un notaro per rimanere annessi al presente atto.

Quindi la detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro a nome suddetto ha approvato, confermato, ed accettato, siccome approva, conferma, ed accetta, i detti conti in tutte le loro parti, tanto nella colonna del Dare che nella colonna del Avere, riconoscendoli giusti, fideli e legali in tutta le loro continenza, estensione ed importanza, senza eccezione alcuna.

E siccome nel conto corrente di esso Signor Simone Tagliaferro fatto in rubli, incluso nei conti del terzo stabilimento, egli è addebitato in rubli argento, nove mila due cento trenta, in data del trenta Giugno, mille otto cento cinquanta nove, per importo del costo di due terzi di tre quarti (pari ad una meta) appartenente ai detti Signori Biagio Tagliaferro e Girolamo Tagliaferro degl'infrascritti immobili situati in Berdiansk, la proprietà della quale meta fu nel detto conto trasferita agli eredi; e siccome in oggi la detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro, sul solo riflesso che i detti intieri immobili nello stato attuale sono stati valutati per la somma di rubli argento dodici mila, come da perizia fatta a di lei richiesta sola in Berdiansk dal Consolato Britannico, ha domandato la sua riduzione a tenore della detta stima; così il detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro, concorrendo volentieri a tale riduzione in vantaggio dei suddetti suoi nipoti orfani di padre, ha spontaneamente condonato, siccome condona, in favore dei detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, ed Alberto Tagliaferro, suoi nipoti, la detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro, col nome premesso per i medesimi accettante la differenza che risulta tra il detto prezzo fissato nel conto di rubli argento nove mila due cento trenta e tre, il prezzo fissato nella detta perizia, e quindi la detta partita addebitata al Signor Simone Tagliaferro in rubli argento 9,230, riducendola, siccome la riduce, a rubli argento sei mila, giusta il detto valore dei due terzi di tre quarti dei detti stabili secondo la detta stima, 6,000; risultano a credito dei detti figli del detto Simone Tagliaferro rubli argento tre mila due cento trenta (3,230 rubli). I quali rubli argento tre mila due cento trenta, al cambio di rubli argento sei e cinquanta centesimi, sono pari a lire sterline quattro cento novanta sei, scellini diciotto, danari sette.

Dalle quali lire sterline quattro cento novanta sei, scellini diciotto, e danari sette, i detti Signori contraenti, nei rispettivi nomi premessi, hanno dedotto e compensato, siccome deducono e compensano, le suddette lire sterline settantatre, scellini diciotto, ed un danaro, risultati a debito del detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro per bilancio del conto della finale liquidazione, risultando così a credito dei detti figli ed eredi del medesimo Signor Simone Tagliaferro lire sterline quattro cento ventitre e danari sei.

E da questa lire sterline quattro cento ventitre e danari sei essi signori contraenti hanno ancora dedotto lire sterline cento cinquanta per altrottante somministrate dal detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro alla detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro, conforme ella dichiara e confessa di avere avute e ricevute, e da lei convertite in ristanzo dei detti stabili.

E le restanti lire sterline due cento settantatre e danari sei convengono essi contraenti che debbano rimanere in potere di esso Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro, perche da lui, in detta sua qualità di curatore ed amministratore dei beni dei detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, ed Alberto Tagliaferro, suoi nipoti, siano amministrati in vantaggio dei medesimi suoi nipoti, ed in sua cautela della pleggeria prestatale nel registro della Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà per la di lei nomina nell' incarico suddetto di speciale curatrice.

Ed affinchè consti legalmente del trasferimento della detta meta di tali immobili, il detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro, nei rispettivi nomi premessi, per se e per la eredità del detto Signor Biagio Tagliaferro suo genitore, loro rispettivi eredi ed aventi causa dagli stessi,

ha venduto, cesso, concesso, assegnato e trasferito, siccome vende, cede, concede, assegna, e trasferisce ai detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, ed Alberto, fratelli e sorella Tagliaferro suoi nipoti, figli ed eredi del ditto Signor Tagliaferro, naturi i detti Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, ed Arianna in Odessa, ed il detto Alberto in Berdiansk, per se, loro eredi ed aventi causa degli stessi, e per i medesimi alla detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro loro madre in detta qualità di loro curatrice, due terzi di tre quarti, pari a due quarti dell'intero, spettanti in quanto ad un quarto al detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro in nome proprio qual' uno dei detti soci, ed in quanto all' altro quarto al detto fù Signor Biagio Tagliaferro qual' altro socio, del corpo di stabili situato nella città di Berdiansk nel quartiere quarantesimo-terzo, ai numeri uno e dieci, Strada Zelianuja, consistente come segue :—

Un magazzino a due piani in pietra, coperto con tegale, mura con intonacatura, pavimento di tavole, finestre loro contraporte, porte di legno di pino tinte ad olio; sulla facciata della piazza un balcone con ringhiera di ferro: nella quì annessa pianta segnato A;

Un magazzino di pietra ad un piano coperto con tegale, mura intonacate, pavimento di legno non dipinto, finestre, contraporte e porte in legno dipinto di pinte con colore ad olio; nella detta quì annessa pianta segnato B;

La casa di abitazione ad un piano e mezzo in pietra coperto di tegale, mura e soffitti intonacati, pavimento di legno dipinto con colore ad olio; finestre di estate in legno di rovere con fornimento di rame, quelle d'inverno di legno di pino dipinte con colore ad olio; gradinate di legno comunicate col corridojo; stufe da per tutto in mattoni ad uso di Olanda in numero cinque; nella cucina focolari con piancie all' Inglese e forno alla Russa in mattoni, fornimento dei cammini in ferro fuso; nella detta pianta segnata C;

Il sito della rimessa que esisteva nel detto Stabile C, che il detto fù Signor Simone Tagliaferro avea sfabbricato, e comunicato con lo stabile contiguo spettante a dessa Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro;

Palizzata di legno sopra fondamenta di pietra, piedestalli di legno per sostegno della detta palizzata, quattro pilastri di pietra con un portone;

Palizzata di legno per il giardino in mezzo;

Due gebiette formate di pietra di Kerteh a stucco, con coperchi di legno;

Pietre intorno al cortile, mura di steccato di legno e due portoni di legno; tutto il legname del detto corpo di stabili è logoro; confinato questo intero corpo di stabili da un punto beni della Pomeschiza Maggiorezza Marcus; da un' altro punto beni appartenenti alla Pomeschiza Fieller; da un' altro punto col suddetto stabile spettante ad essa Signora vedova Tagliaferro, a cui è incorporata la suddetta rimessa, e come meglio il detto corpo di stabili è descritto nella perizia, e disegnato nella pianta, fatte dall' architetto di quella città Pagnolesi in data dell' otto Maggio, mille otto cento cinquanta, della quale perizia viene annessa al presente atto la traduzione dalla lingua Russa alla lingua Italiana fatta dal Signor Giacomo Tagliaferro in data del ventisei Novembre, mille otto cento sessantatre, assieme con una copia della detta pianta, dichiarando i contraenti che la detta perizia e pianta originali non vengono quì annesse per consegnarle alla detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro o come documenti relativi alla proprietà di quel fondo;

Da avverti dal dì trenta Giugno, mille otto cento cinquanta-nove, giorno in cui segui privatamente la vendita di tale meta di stabili, e per il prezzo di rubli argento sei mila, com' è stato già ridotto col presente atto.

Dichiarano intanto, che stante la detta alienazione, il detto corpo di stabili per intero spettò ai detti signori figli del fù Signor Simone Tagliaferro, mentre una quarta parte, era di proprietà del medesimo Signor Simone qual' uno dei quattro soci all' epoca dell' acquisto dello stesso immobile, e l' altro quarto glielo vendette il Signor Giacomo Tagliaferro, allora altro socio, en seguito al suo ritiro dalla società liquidata per il suo interesse negli atti del Signor Notaro Salvaclose Vincenzo Rossignand, il diciassetto Agosto, mille otto cento cinquanta setta, ove esso Signor Giacomo avea ritenuto il suo detto quarto.

Stante le cose premesse i detti Signori Girolamo Tagliaferro nei nomi premessi e Andrea Giovanni Calvocoressi per ciò che riguarda il suo interesse nella detta cessata ditta, da una parte, e Margherita vedova Tagliaferro nel detto nome di curatrice dei detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, ed Alberto, suoi figli, eredi del detto fù Simone Tagliaferro loro padre, dall' altra parte hanno dichiarato e dichiarano di non avere tra loro altra pendenza desiranti dalla suddetta società di commercio sotto la firma di Biagio Tagliaferro e figli, nè come socio nè di conto particolare del detto fù Simone Tagliaferro colla stessa società, e nè tampoco con esso Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro e col detto fù Signor Biagio Tagliaferro, e *vice versâ*, tranne l' interesse dei detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, ed Alberto, fratelli e sorella Tagliaferro, che partecipano nella eredità del medesimo Signor Biagio Tagliaferro loro avo paterno, e tranne la suddetta promessa della difesa della meta degli stabili in

Berdiansk in caso di evizione; e perciò, a comune cautela, hanno fatto e fanno un patto finale, valido, e liberatorio, e quitanza generalissima senza csecuzione alcuna nella più ampia e valida forma per tutti i fini ed effetti della legge.

Inoltre la detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro dichiara di esserle stati consegnati dal detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro i documenti riportati nel quì annesso elenco segnato F, relativi al suddetto corpo di stabili situato in Berdiansk.

Dichiarare pure la detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro di esserle stati consegnati dal detto Signor Girolamo Tagliaferro a nomi suddetti e Andrea Giovanni Calvocoressi i seguenti documenti, e sono:—

Una cambiale di lire sterline due cento cinquanta-cinque tratta dal fù Simone Tagliaferro a peso di Giacomo Tagliaferro ed a favor di fratelli Rocca, rimasta sotto protesto, e pagata per onor di firma della ditta B. Tagliaferro e Figli, pel quale ammontò il detto fù Simone venne addebitato nel suo conto colla stessa ditta, il dì cinque Gennajo, mille otto cento cinquante-nove, in rubli argento mille sei cento cinquanta-sette e cinquanta centesimi, come rilevasi dal folio trenta-tre dei prospetti e bilanci della riferita ditta, annessi al presente contratto;

Tre cedole della Società di Navigazione Maltese numerate come sigue: numero mille quattro cento quaranta-tre, per lire sterline venti-cinque; numero mille quattro cento quaranta-quattro, per lire sterline venti-cinque; numero mille quattro cento quaranta-cinque, per lire sterline venti-cinque—totale, lire sterline settante-cinque, il cui importo fu pure addebitato allo stesso fù Simone il trentuno Marzo, mille otto cento cinquanta-nove, nell'anzidetto suo conto colla detta ditta in rubli argento quattro cento ottanta-sette e cinquanta centesimi, come rilevasi dal folio trenta-tre dei suscitati prospetti e bilancio quì annessi. Le mentonate tre cedole sono girate in bianco dalla ditta B. Tagliaferro e Figli.

Dichiarano in ultimo luogo essi contraenti, che i documenti da loro a me esibiti ed annessi al presente atto sono:—

(A.) Copia autentica dei suddetti due Decreti della Second' Aula Civile del venti-cinque Maggio e cinque Dicembre, mille otto cento sessanta-tre, della nomina della Signora Margherita Tagliaferro in curatrice speciale dei detti suoi figli.

(B.) Decreto originale dell' undici Dicembre corrente, che abilita la detta Signora Margherita Tagliaferro a stipolare il presente atto, col giuramento prestato dal Signor Alessandro Naudi in data sedici Dicembre corrente, ordinato nel citato Decreto.

(C.) Conti della liquidazione degli interessi del fù Simone Tagliaferro colla ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, quitati in forza del presente atto.

(D.) Traduzione dalla lingua Russa all' Italiana della perizia del suddetto immobile situato nella città Berdiansk, datata otto Maggio, mille otto cento cinquanta; e

(E.) Copia della pianta del detto immobile, essendo stati gli originali consegnati alla Signora Margherita Tagliaferro.

(F.) Elenco dei documenti in Russo relativi al detto immobile di Berdiansk consegnati alla Signora Margherita Tagliaferro.

La detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro riserva i dritti ch'ella pretende di avere consuccedere nell' eredità del detto di lei marito secondo le leggi sotto le quali contrasse il suo matrimonio col detto fù Simone Tagliaferro, cioè, le leggi Inglesi, in modo che verificandosi tale circostanza, il sudditto acquisto di stabili in Berdiansk s'intenderà fatto anche a suo nome nell' entrante quantità del di lei interesse nella detta eredità di suo marito, cioè, in quanto ad una terza parte.

Le parti contraenti nei rispettivi nomi premissi promettano scambievolmente l'inviolabile asseveranza del presente contratto, della cui importanza in ogni sua parte sono state cerziorate da me Notaro, sotto la rispettiva ipoteca dei loro beni presenti e futuri.

Tutto, letto e publicatoda me Notaro in Malta, nella città Valletta, nella detta Seconda Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà alla presenza dei Signori Francesco Debono Gravagna, del fù Giuseppe, nativo della città Valletta, dimorante nella Floriana, scritturale, e del perillustre Dottor di Leggi, Carmelo Mifsud, figlio del fù Luigi, nativo della Valletta, dimorante nella Pieta, testimoni.

(Firmato)

GIROLAMO TAGLIAFERRO, a nomi suddetti.

A. G. CALVOCORESSI, a nome suddetto.

MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

CARMELO MIFSUD, *Testimonio*.

FRANCO. DEBONO GRAVAGNA, *Testimonio*.

Notaro ANTÓNIO MICALLEF, in Malta.

Il tenor degli annessi documenti è il seguente :—

(A.)

Estratto dal suo originale Ricorso, esistente conservato nel Registro della Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà dell' Isola di Malta e sue Dipendenze, il tenor del quale è il seguente.

Nella Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.

Ricorso di Margarita, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro,

Espone riverentemente,

Che la detta vedova Tagliaferro, in conseguenza della morte del fù di lei marito Simone Tagliaferro, ha domandato per via di ricorso che venisse confermata nella tutela e curatela dei figli minori di lei e del detto suo marito, ed avendo il primo del corrente Maggio questa Corte ordinato che fosse di tale domanda notificato il negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro per la ragione che dal testamento del fù Biagio Tagliaferro, avo dei detti minorenni, appariva nominato esso negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro curatore ed amministratore delle quote che ad essi figli della esponente pervenivano in vigore del testamento medesimo, il detto negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro ha presentato in questa Corte al di lei ricorso una " Risposta " per via della quale egli chiese che la detta domanda della esponente venga regolata secondo la legge, la volontà del testatore, e le circostanze tutti richiedono.

Che per quanto riguarda la legge, senza dubbio veruno è la madre che in difetto del padre ha da essere la direttrice dei figli minorenni, e che perciò deve essere tutrice e curatrice.

Che in quanto al testamento del fù Biagio Tagliaferro non potrebbe il medesimo avere influenza veruna sulla di lei domanda, essendo indubitato che Girolamo Tagliaferro per quel testamento è stato nominato valamente amministratore e curatore delle quote ereditarie dall'avo disposte in favore dei detti minorenni e non di altro (nè certamente poteva essere altrimenti), in modo che essi minorenni mancano assolutamente di un tutore, egualmente che di un curatore per tutti altri beni e per tutti altri affari dei quali non è disposto in quel testamento.

Che le circostanze accennate genericamente in quella Risposta concorrono, perchè sia provveduta senza indugio la domanda della esponente. Girolamo Tagliaferro in vero ha l'incarico soltanto di amministrare le dette quote ereditarie, ma non già di provvedere all'educazione dei minorenni, di regolare il mantenimento loro, di prendere cura dei loro interessi in generale; fra il quali sono rimarchevoli quelli concernenti la liquidazione di una ben coesistente società commerciale esercitata già fra il defunto Simone suo padre, ed i fratelli Tagliaferro; liquidazione nella quale il detto Girolamo (oltre l'interesse dell'eredità del detto fù Biagio Tagliaferro) avrebbe il suo particolare interesse non meno.

Che in vero l'exponente è venuta ed ha pensato di dovere stabilirsi in Malta per sistemare cotesti interessi dei figli, e certamente non è cosa praticabile il pimostrare in cotesta breve scrittura quanto sia grave il pregiudizio che potrebbe costoro soffrire da qualunque dilazionamento ulteriore della domandata conferma; la quale per altro è ben manifesto, che non potrebbe essere di pregiudizio veruno ai dritti accordati al ditto Girolamo Tagliaferro per via del suscitato testamento ed amministrare le suddette quote ereditarie.

Quindi in vista delle cose premesse, unilmente domanda che venga decretato affermativamente il detto di lei ricorso ed ai termini della legge.

(Firmato)

DR. SAUCEHETT.

GIUSE. PICEININO, P.L.

Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.—Second' Aula.

Dr. Francesco Fiteni, Giudice.

La Corte—

Visto il suo Decreto del primo del corrente mese di Maggio; vista la risposta data in seguito a detto Decreto dal negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro;

Atteso e che delle informazioni avute, risulta che i figli minori del fù negoziante Simone Tagliaferro e della ricorrente Margarita hanno, nella qualità di eredi di detto Simone, degl'interessi da liquidare e definire in questa isola con l'eredità del negoziante Biagio Tagliaferro, loro avo paterno;

Attesochè è ispediente che quantunque eglino trovinsi domiciliati altrove, abbiano qui una persona che potesse legalmente a loro nome procedere a siffatta liquidazione e definizione;

Ha per gli effetti premessi nominato l'anzidetta Margarita in curatrice esecutrice di essi minori, adempite le solite solennità.

Dato il venticinque Maggio, 1863.

(Firmato) FRANCESCO FITENI, *Giudice*.
Notaro E. CATANIO, *Regt.*

24 Dicembre, 1863. Dritto pag. dal Notaro Ant. Micallef. Scellino uno penn. dieci.
Reg. 1646, B.A.

Vera copia,
(Firmato) Notaro E. CATANIO, *Regt.*

Estratto dal suo originale Ricorso esistente, conservato nel Registro della Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà del tenor seguente, cioè:—

Nella Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.

Ricorso della gentildonna Margherita, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro,
Espone riverentemente—

Che con Decreto di questa Corte del venticinque Maggio, mille otto sessantatre, è stata l'exponente nominata curatrice in speciale all' oggetto di liquidare e definire gl' interessi in Malta dei di lei figli minori, come eredi del detto Simone loro padre defonto ;

Che tale autorizzazione è stata però della Corte limitata a liquidare e definire tale interessi coll' eredità di Biagio Tagliaferro loro avo, quando che la liquidazione di tali interessi riguardando la ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli trovansi altre persone con cui tale liquidazione dovrebbe essere effettuata.

Domanda umilmente che la detta facoltà già col detto Decreto accordatole, venga estesa a quella di poter liquidare la quota sociale già appartenente al detto Simone di lei marito defunto e rispettivo genitore dei detti figli minori nella ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, con qualunque persona avente interesse.

(Firmato) DR. ARPA.
DEBONO ABELA, P.S.

Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.—Second' Aula.

Dr. Francesco Fiteni, Giudice.

La Corte—

Visto il suo Decreto del dì venticinque del mese di Maggio ultimo scorso ; avute le necessarie informazioni ; ha, sotto le condizioni di detto Decreto del dì venticinque Maggio, aderito alla domanda contenuta nel presente ricorso.

Dato il dì cinque Dicembre, 1863.

(Firmato) FRANCESCO FITENI, *Giudice*.
Notaro GIOVANNI CATANIO, *Registratore*.

Nel dì otto Dicembre, dell'anno mille otto cento sessantatre,

Compare la gentildonna Margherita, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, nato nella Senglea, e morto in Odessa, figlia del fù Cavaliere Felice De Ribas, nata in Odessa, ed ivi domiciliata, attualmente di passaggio in quest' isola e presente in esecuzione delli due Decreti emanati dalla Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà nel dì 25 Maggio e 5 Dicembre, 1863 ; sopra i di lei ricorso col di lei giuramento, e sotto l'ipoteca ed obbligazione dei di lei propri beni, presenti e futuri, anche quelli di sua dote, garantita dall' infrascritta obbligazione, spontaneamente quale curatrice speciale degl' infrascritti di lei figli minori, ha promesso e promette, e solennemente si e obbligata e si obbligherà ed a favore di Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, ed Alberto, di lei e del detto fù Simone figli minori, di fedelmente esercitare l'incarico riguardante l'amministrazione delle sostanze che potranno risultare di spettanza alli predetti di lei figli dalla liquidazione e definizione dei conti sociali da essere fatti con la ditta negoziante Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, e ciò quali eredi del predetto negoziante Simone loro genitore, risguardante la sua quota sociale nella già esercitata società sotto la ditta sù indicata, ascendenti alla somma di lire sterline quattro cento tre ad oltra maggiore ó minore da essere approvata dalla Corte.

Inoltre la predetta Margherita vedova Tagliaferro si è obbligata, e si obbliga di rendere un giusto, fedele, e legale conto ai predetti di lei figli della suddetta amministrazione nei termini della legge.

E per l'adempimento delle cose promesse comparisce il negoziante Girolamo Tagliaferro, figlio del fù negoziante Biagio, nato nella Senglea, e residente nella città Valletta, e presente spontaneamente, ha pleggiato e pleggia la prenominata Margherita, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, di lui cognata, e rispettivamente fratello, costituendosi siccome si costituisce peggio solidale, e principalmente tenuto ed obbligato.

E così.

(Firmato) MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.
GIROLAMO TAGLIAFERRO.

Giurò la ricorrente e sottoscrissero innanzi a me nel dì suddetto.

(Firmato) Notaro GIOVANNI CATANIA, *Registratore*.

24 Dicembre, 1863. Dritto pag. dal Notaro Ant. Micallef. Scellino uno e penn. sei.
Reg. 1645, B.A.

Vera copia.

(Firmato) Notaro G. CATANIO, *Registratore*.

(B.)

Nella Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.

Ricorso della gentildonna Margherita, vedova del fù negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, curatrice speciale dei di lei figli minori e dello stesso Simone,

Espone riverentemente—

Che in forza di due Decreti emanati della Corte suddetta nel 25 Maggio e 5 Dicembre 1863, è stata ella nominata curatrice speciale all'oggetto de liquidare e definire gl'interessi dei detti di lei figli minori, quali eredi del detto Simone Tagliaferro, già uno dei soci nella società annunciata sotto la ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli;

Che la liquidazione di tali interessi è data, effettuata e verificata da persona di fiducia dell'esponente.

Domanda pertanto che sia dalla Corte nella detta sua qualità autorizzata a ridurre in pubblica forma la detta liquidazione, e quittare i conti sociali in essa contenuti a tenore dell'annessa minuta.

(Firmato) DR. F. ARPA.

Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.—Second' Aula.

Dr. Francesco Fiteni, Giudice.

La Corte—

Vista l'annessa minuta;

Ha autorizzato la ricorrente a poter, nella sua qualità di curatrice speciale dei suoi figli minori, ridurla coll' intervento del giudice sedente in pubblica forma; a condizione bensì che prima stata dalla stessa incaricata ad esaminare i conti cui allude essa minuta, giuri nelle mani del registratore di questa Corte di averli esaminati e di esserle da tale esame risultato di essere gli stessi giusti e legali.

Dato il dì undici Dicembre, 1863.

(Firmato) FRANCESCO FITENI, *Giudice*.
Notaro G. CATANIO, *Registratore*.

Addì 16 Dicembre, 1863.

Comparisse Alessandro Naudi, figlio di Giuseppe della Valetta, e presente in esecuzione del sopralodato Decreto, ha con suo giuramento dichiarato ed affermato di avere esaminato i conti riguardanti la cessata società di commercio sotto la firma negoziante Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, comprendente tre stabilimenti cui allude la minuta di quittance di che dal quale esame è risultato di essere gli stessi conti giusti e legali.

E così ha giurato.

(Firmato) ALESSANDRO NAUDI.

Giurò e sottoscrisse innanzi a me nel dì premesso.

(Firmato) Notaro G. CATANIO, *Registratore*.

Tralasciato il tenore dei documenti segnati C, D, E.

(F.)

Elenco di Documenti in Russo, consegnati alla Signora Margherita Tagliaferro, relativi agli stabili di Berdiansk, secondo l'indicazione fattane in Italiano sul dorso di ogni Piego dal Signor Giacomo Tagliaferro.

Piego No. 1.

- (A.) Cessione del locale No. 1, Quartale XLIII, ad Annibale Cambiagio.
- (B.) Certificato di cessione di Annibale Cambiagio del locale No. 1, Quartale XLIII, a Simone Tagliaferro, ed atto di proprietà di quest'ultimo del magazzino a due piani, ed altre fabbricati sul detto locale.
- (C.) Ricevuta a favor di Giacomo Tagliaferro da Annibale Cambiagio per il prezzo del locale No. 1, Quartale XLIII, rescogli 3, Giugno 1854.
- (D.) Ricevuta di dritti pagati alla dama da Annibale Cambiagio per il locale No. 1, Quartale XLIII, Dicembre 5, 1842.
- (E.) Pianta del gran magazzino a due piani, 1844.
- (F.) Certificato della dama della cessione fatta da Cambiagio a Simone Tagliaferro della casa No. 1, Quartale XLIII, 25 Agosto, 1844.
- (G.) Progettata casa da fabbricarsi sul locale No. 1, Quartale XLIII, ma que poi non fu costruita.
- (H.) Pianta di una casa.

Piego No. 2.

No. 47, Quartale IV. Pianta di un magazzino con casa e cortile, di cui vi sono annesse due ricevute del prezzo di terreno sul quale si fabbricò il magazzino.

Piego No. 3.

- (A.) Intimazione a S. Tagliaferro dal comitato di costruzione per la definizione della fabbrica sul locale No. 10, Quartale XLIII, Luglio 5, 1847.
- (B.) Ricevuto di Varidi Anassaff per prezzo del locale No. 10, Quartale XLIII, da lui cesso a Simone Tagliaferro, 18 Maggio, 1847.
- (C.) Atto di proprietà, ossia cedola del locale No. 10, Quartale XLIII, Luglio 9, 1847.

Piego No. 4.

No. 9, Quartale XLIII.

A.—Casa.

Cessione del detto luogo a Stefano Enseieff del comitato di costruzione di Berdiansk, e da Enseieff a Margherita Tagliaferro, 15 Gennajo, 1847.

(Firmato)

GIROLAMO TAGLIAFERRO.

A. E. CALVACORESSI.

MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

CARMELO MIFSUD, *Testimonio.*

FRANCESCO DEBONO GRAVAGNA, *Testimonio.*

Notaro ANTONIO MICALLEF, *in Malta.*

Vera copia estratta e collazionata nel dì 26 Dicembre, 1863.

(Sceau notarial.)

(Firmato)

Notaro ANTONIO MICALLEF, *in Malta.*

Pour la légalisation de la signature ci-dessus apposée du Sieur Antonio Micallef, notaire public en cette île.

Malte, le $\frac{16}{28}$ Décembre, 1863.

(Sceau du Consulat.)

Le Consul de Russie,

(Signé)

F. TAGLIAFERRO.

Inclosure 17 in No. 156.

Addì ventiquattro Dicembre, mille otto cento sessantatre (1863).

INNANZI l'illustrissimo Signor Dottor di Leggi Francesco Fiteni, uno dei Giudici di Sua Maestà sedente nella Second' Aula della Regia Corte Civile, all'atto presente prestante la sua giudiziaria assistenza, et alla presenza di me Notaro Antonio Micallef, residente di studio nella città Valletta, Strada San Paolo, al numero dugento ventotto duplicato, e

degli appiè firmati testimoni aventi i requisiti voluti dalla legge si sono costituiti personalmente ;

L'illustrissimo Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro, nativo della città Senglia, dimorante nella Sliema, figlio del fù negoziante Biagio, da una parte ;

E la Signora Margherita Tagliaferro, nata De Ribas, nativa e domiciliata nella città di Odessa, ritrovantesi quì in Malta, dimorante nella città Valletta, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, il quale era nativo della città Senglia, cessato di vivere in Odessa, figlia del fù Cavaliere Felice de Ribas, nella qualità di curatrice speciale dei Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, Alberto Tagliaferro, di lei figli minorenni ed eredi del detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro loro genitore, nominata dalla stessa Corte per il solo interesse del detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro colla ditta di commercio sotto nome di Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, in forza di due Decreti dattati, l'uno il venticinque Maggio ultimo scorso e l'altro il cinque del corrente Dicembre, non che in vigor di altro Decreto facoltativo a stipulare il presente atto, datato il dì ventuno Dicembre corrente, originalmente quì annesso segnato A, d'altra parte ;

Ambidue da me Notaro conosciuti.

E questi in sequela alla liquidazione e quitanza degl'interessi dell'eredità del detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro colla ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, eseguita per pubblico instrumento in atti miei in data d'oggi ; e per dipendenza relativa agli stessi interessi, sono divenuti a quanto sigue.

Il detto Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro si è costituito e si costituisce vero, liquido, e certo debitore della detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro, a nome suddetto stipolante, nella somma di lire sterline due cento cinquanta cinque (225^{l.}), pari a rubli argento mille sei cento cinquanta sette e cinquanta centesimi, regolata la lira alla valuta di rubli sei e cinquanta centesimi. E sono per altrettante dovute da esso Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro al detto fù Signor Simone Tagliaferro di suo conto particolare per ammontare di una cambiale da quest'ultimo stata tratta da Odessa in data ^{primo} ^{tredici} Dicembre, mille otto cento cinquantotto, a di esso Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro, a tre mesi data, pagabile all'ordine dei Signori Fratelli Rocca, accettata e pagata in scadenza dalla ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, e quindi addebitata nel detto importare di rubli argento mille sei cento cinquanta sette e cinquanta centesimi al detto Signor Simone Tagliaferro sotto la data del cinque Gennaro, mille otto cento nove, nel conto della sudditta liquidazione colla ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, alla pagina trentatre dello stesso conto : la quale cambiale in seconda ed in terza viene quì annessa l'una segnata B, et l'altra segnata C.

A conto del quale debito il detto Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro, per se, suoi eredi ed aventi causa dallo stesso, ha venduto, assegnato, e trasferito, siccome vende, trasferisce, ed assegna in salutum alla detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro a nome suddetto comprante per i detti Signori Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Arianna, Alberto Tagliaferro, di lei figli, loro eredi ed aventi causa dagli stessi, un giardino di di lui proprietà, come da documenti esistenti presso il Signor negoziante Alessandro Ducovich, situato nella città di Berdiansk della consistenza de circa cento sagen di facciata, e di circa due cento sagen di profondità, nel quale vi esiste una casetta ossia due stanzette, nel' interno mattoni crudi, e nell' esterno mattoni cotti, coperte di tegale ; una vivanda di legno con cristalli e due porte, tali quali si trovano anche nel caso che sono deteriorati ; il quale giardino si estende fino alla collina, e confina a levante con un giardino del Signor Nicolo di Stefano Kobegeff, Glana di Berdiansk, a mezzo di colla strada, a ponente col giardino del Signor Calomullo Cerniaieff, già Governatore di colà, a tramontana colla detta collina, con tutti i suoi dritti e pertinenze.

E ciò per il pregio tra essi contraenti convenuto di rubli argento otto cento (800) ch'essi contraenti hanno dedotti e compensati, siccome compensano e deducono, alla parità di lire sterline cento ventitre, uno scellino, e danari sette, dal suddetto debito di esso Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro di 255^{l.}, rimanendo così egli debitore a soldo nella somma di lire sterline cento trentuno, scellini dieci-otto, e danari cinque.

Le quali lire sterline cento trentuno, scellini dieci-otto, danari cinque, il detto Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro promette e si obbliga di pagare alla detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro a nome suddetto nel termine di mesi otto a datare da oggi in avanti ; come pure promette e si obbliga di pagarle i loro lucri alla ragione di quattro per cento all'anno computabili dal giorno di oggi fino a quello dell'effettivo pagamento delle dette 131^{l.} 18s. 5d., senza veruna contraddizione.

Relativamente poi alla detta dazione in salutum i detti signori contraenti convengano che se mai il suddetto giardino venduto si trova soggetto a qualche contribuzione annuale, e vi esista un debito in ragione di tale peso per il corso di più anni, in tale caso sarà licito alla detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro a nome suddetto di retrocedere dalla compra dello stesso stabile, la quale retrocessione si avrà per acconsentita anche dallo stesso

Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro, colla dichiarazione ch' essa Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro ne farà colà in Berdiansk, Odessa, od in qualunque altro luogo per mezzo di un' atto autentico innanzi una competente autorità, e della quale notificherà lo stesso Signor Cavaliere Tagliaferro, ed in questo caso il debito di esso Signor Cavaliere Tagliaferro, nel suddetto ammontare, si ripristinerà di lire sterline due cento cinquanta-cinque, e la detta sua obbligazione dei lucri e del pagamento del capitale s'intenderà per le intiere 255*l.*, e loro lucri sopra convenuti; e non prescegliendo essa Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro di retrocedere della compra del detto giardino, il Signor Cavaliere Tagliaferro sarà tenuto, siccome promette e si obbliga, di pagarle l'ammontare che ella avrà pagato per siffatta causa, in un coi suoi lucri di quattro per cento allo anno fra un mese contabile dalla intima che a lui farà di tale seguito pagamento; ben inteso non prima dello spirare dei suddetti otto mesi di dilazione per il pagamento del suddetto bilancio; dichiarando il detto Signor Cavaliere Tagliaferro (Giacomo) di essere a lui ignoto che il suddetto giardino sia soggetto al pagamento di contribuzioni annuali della ditta.

Per la piena osservanza di tutto il premesso il detto Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro ha ipotecato ed ipoteca tutti e singoli suoi beni presenti e futuri ovunque esistenti.

Finalmente il detto Signor Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro, attesa la detta vendita, ha revocato la procura da lui intestata in persona del suddetto Signor negoziante Alessandro Ducovich, al quale ordina di consegnare alla detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro tutti i documenti presso di lui esistenti che giustificano le proprietà del suddetto giardino.

La detta Signora Margherita vedova Tagliaferro riserva i dritti ch' ella pretende di avere di consuccedere nell'eredità del detto di lei marito secondo le leggi sotto le quali contrasse il suo matrimonio col detto fù Simone Tagliaferro, cioè, le leggi Inglesi, in modo che verificandosi tale circostanza il suddetto acquisto di stabile in Berdiansk s'intenderà fatto anche a suo nome nell'entrante quantità del di lei interesse nella detta eredità di suo marito, cioè, in quanto ad una terza parte.

Fatto, letto, e pubblicato da me Notaro ai contraenti. Spiegato nel cerziorarli del suo contenuto da loro ben compreso come ne dichiarano in Malta, nella città Valletta e nella detta Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà, alla presenza dei Signori Francesco Debono Gravagna del fù Giuseppe, nativo della Valletta, dimorante nella Floriana, scritturale, e del perillustre Dottor de Leggi Carmelo Mifsud, figlio del fù Luigi, nativo della Valletta, dimorante nella Pietà, testimoni.

(Firmato)

GIACOMO TAGLIAFERRO.

MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

CARMELO MIFSUD, *Testimonio.*

FRANCESCO DEBONO GRAVAGNA, *Testimonio.*

Notaro ANTONIO MICALLEF, *in Malta.*

Il tenor degli annessi documenti è il seguente:—

(A.)

Nella Second' Aula della Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.

Ricorso della gentildonna Margherita, vedova del negoziante Simone Tagliaferro, curatrice speciale dei de lei figli minori e dello stesso Simone,

Espone riverentemente—

Che in forza di due Decreti di questa Corte del 25 Maggio e 5 Dicembre, 1863, è stata l'esponente nominata curatrice speciale all'oggetto di liquidare e definire colla ditta Biagio Tagliaferro e Figli, e cogli'interessati nella stessa gl'interessi del detto di lei marito.

Che in connessione ai conti resile che esiste una partita per cui l'esponente col detto nome ha regresso contro il Cavaliere Giacomo Tagliaferro debitore come dall'annessa minuta [appare].

Domanda di essere autorizzata a poter ridurre in forma pubblica l'opportuno atto ai termini della detta minuta.

(Firmato)

DR. F. ARPA.

Corte Civile di Sua Maestà.—Second' Aula.

Dr. Francesco Fiteni, Giudice.

La Corte—

Visto il presente ricorso, vista l'annessata minuta;

Ha aderito alla domanda contenuta in esso ricorso, a condizione bensì che tale

minuta sia per meglio del notaro Antonio Micallef pubblicata coll'intervento del Giudice sedente; e ch'egli, il detto notaro, appena pubblicata, faccia pei fini legali inscrivere la stessa nel registro pubblico.

Dato il dì ventuno Dicembre, 1863.

(Firmati)

FRANCESCO FITENI, *Giudice.*

Not. Pub., CATANIO, Reg.

24 Dicembre, 1863, dritto pag. dal Not. Ant. Micallef, scellino uno Reg. 1642, B.A. Tralasciato il tenore dei documenti segnati B, C.

Vera copia estratta e collazionata nel dì 26 Dicembre, 1863.

(Firmato)

Notaro ANTONIO MICALLEF, *in Malta.*

(Seal.)

Pour la légalisation du Sieur Antonio Micallef, notaire public en cette île.

Malte, le 1^{er}/₂₈ Décembre, 1863.

Le Consul de Russie,

(Signé)

F. TAGLIAFERRO.

(Consulat de Russie à Malte.)

Inclosure 18 in No. 156.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Luca Carburi, October 10, 1866.

[For this Inclosure, see Inclosure 11 in No. 156.]

Inclosure 19 in No. 156.

Copy of Original in Russian of the Certificate granted by the Consulate-General at Odessa to Madame Tagliaferro to sell the property of her Children.

[In Russian.]

(Translation.)

I, THE undersigned Kiva Heller, certify that the above-written is a true copy of a document written by me in October 1866, in the house Lüders, in presence of Mr. Grenville-Murray and Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro; and this document I copied from a brouillon composed by my master, M. Serebrini, a sworn advocate of the Tribunal of Commerce.

Odessa, August 1⁵/₁₇, 1867.

(Signed)

KIVA HELLER.

I hereby certify the foregoing certificate of M. Kiva Heller to have been written and signed in my presence, and I further certify the translation of it to be a correct one.

Odessa, August 17, 1867.

(Signed)

GEO. ALEX. STEVENS,

Acting Consul-General.

Inclosure 20 in No. 156.

Passport.—Gratis.

(No. 245.)

By Eustace Clare Grenville-Murray, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian Ports in the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff.

THESE are to request and to require whomsoever it may concern to allow Mr. Francesco Baida, British subject, to pass freely without let or hinderance, and to afford him aid and protection in case of need.

Given at Odessa, this 17th day of October, 1864.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

Consul-General.

Bearer's signature :

(Signed)

FRANCESCO BAIDA.

Inclosure 21 in No. 156.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Messrs. Raffalovich.

Gentlemen,

Odessa, October $\frac{19}{31}$, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will be kind enough to forward the 11,000 roubles, due from Mr. Tubino to the Tagliaferro heirs, to my account with Messrs. Coutts and Co., bankers, London, as soon as you receive the same,

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 22 in No. 156.

Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich.

22 Ottobre, 1866.

FRA li documenti che ci spedisto inerenti lo stabile Tagliaferro, rileviamo nell'atto di facoltà di vendita rilasciato da codesto Console Inglese alla vedova Tagliaferro, la di lui firma non va legalizzata da uno di codeste autorità locali. Sul dubbio abbiamo a provare delle difficoltà in Kertch ve lo rimandiamo in plico separato ed affrancato per il mezzo postale, pregandovi di farlo rivestire di quella formalità e tosto spedirlo a Kertch al nostro agente, Signor Giovanni Deopik di colà.

Rileviamo pure dall'invio che ci faceste, che non esiste un atto de proprietà, e ne il piano di quale immobile; siate tanto buono, gentili Signori, di reclamare dalla vedova, o dar prefato Console quei documenti, siccome ogni altro che potrebbero possedere, facendocene spedizione a Kertch all'indirizzo dello stesso nostro agente.

Tosto spediti tali documenti compiacetevi di telegrafarci, onde col primo vapore poter partire per Kertch a compiere el atto di vendita.

Osserviamo pure nel documento che rimandiamo non essere il bollo Consolare a olio, e non sapendo se sia regolare in tal guisa, si e perciò che vi preghiamo di farlo costatare.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

October 22, 1866.

AMONG the documents you forwarded to us respecting the Tagliaferro premises, we note in the Act for authorization to sell, delivered by the English Consul at Odessa to the widow Tagliaferro, that his signature is not legalized by any of the local authorities there. Doubting that we shall very likely have to encounter difficulties at Kertch on that account, we send it back to you in a separate parcel, post-paid, begging you will cause it to be invested with that formality, and then speedily sent to Kertch to our agent, Mr. John Deopik, at that place.

We likewise observe, by the sending you made to us, that there exists neither an Act (Deed) of property, nor a draft of the premises, which we beg you will be so kind as to require of the widow, or the English Consul, as well as any other document they may possess, sending them to us at Kertch to the address of our said agent.

As soon as these documents are sent, please to advise us by wire, that we may repair to Kertch per first steamer to finish the deed of purchase.

We note also that in the document we return, there is no Consular oil-stamp;* and not knowing whether such a mode is regular, it is also on that account that we beg you will please to have it proved to be true.

Inclosure 23 in No. 156.

Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich.

20 Novembre, 1866.

IL nostro agente a Kertch, Signor Deopik, ci avvisa la ricezione del certificato Consolare, e di avervelo ritornato per la legalizzazione della firma del Console. Siccome questo certificato ha bisogno di essere rettificato nella numerazione dei piani dello stabile, perciò crediamo che dovrà essere rifatto, su qual proposito vi preghiamo, Signori, d'intendervi colla vedova Tagliaferro e col Consolato Inglese, onde tagliare ogni ostacolo alla definizione di quest' affare.

* Meaning official seal.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

November 20,
December 2, 1866.

OUR Agent at Kertch, M. Deopik, advises the receipt of the Consular certificate, and the returning of it to you for the legalization of the signature of the Consul. As that certificate needs to be rectified in the enumeration of the draft of the premises we believe that it ought to be made again, on which we beg you will kindly concert with the widow Tagliaferro and with the English Consulate, in order to remove any difficulty to the completion of that affair.

Inclosure 24 in No. 156.

Messrs. Raffalovich to Messrs. Tubino.

26 Novembre, 1866.

IL Signor Deopik, di Kertch, ci ritornò il noto documento per farlo quì legalizzare, però ci rincresce di dovéva chiaramente replicare che tale legalizzazione non si può ottenere, ed veruna autorità lo vuol fare, giacche il Console Inglese è assente, ed anzi può non ritornarà, giacche il suo Governo lo destinò per altra piazza.

Quindi vi rinnoviamo la nostra preghiera a volerci rimandare tutti gli altri documenti che a tal uopo vi spedimmo, giacche nel caso nulla potete fare, siamo obbligati a restituirli a chi ce li consegnò.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

November 26,
December 8, 1866.

M. DEOPIK, of Kertch, sent us the known document to have it legalized, but we are sorry to repeat to you that no such legalization can be had from any authority, since the English Consul is absent, and, moreover, will return no more, his Government having destined him for another post.

Consequently, we renew our request to send us back all the other documents we sent you to that effect, since, as you can do nothing, we are bound to return them to those who gave them to us.

Inclosure 25 in No. 156.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Messrs. Raffalovich and Co.

Messieurs,

Londres, le 18 Février, 1867.

JE vous prie de vouloir bien envoyer à Kertch, à M. Jean Deopik, pour être remis à M. Luca Carburi, les documents en votre possession concernant la vente de la maison Tagliaferro à Berdiansk, et de passer les frais de poste au compte de M. Tubino.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

Consul-Général d'Angleterre pour les Ports Russes
de la Mer Noire et la Mer d'Azov.

Inclosure 26 in No. 156.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Messrs. Tubino.

Londra, 18 febbrajo, 1867.

LA vendita fattavi del mio stabile costì sotto il No. 1, 8, 9, per mezzo del Signor Luca Carburi mio procuratore, considero essere in piena regola.

Il documento del Console-Generale d'Odessa, Signor Grenville-Murray, non fu rilasciato che dietro il consenso dei tutori, come avrete verificato del incortamento di Malta in vostro potere.

Detto documento, causa del assenza del Signor Grenville da Odessa, quelle autorità trovarano delle difficoltà a legalizarlo, quelle difficoltà fu la solita delle autorità Russe, non essendosi stato il mezzo di largamente grassare.

Ora per remediare a tutto questo e che l'affare prenda una fine, ho presso le opportune misure di far fare un altro documento quì da questo Consolato Russo, ed, unito a quello vecchio in possesso del Signor Raffalovich, spero che l'affare sera presto terminato.

Questo documento sera rimesso al detto Signor Luca Carburi; al medesimo si darà la facoltà di ritirare quello dal Signor Raffalovich.

Dopo finite tutte le formalità e che sarete in regola possessore del stabile, vi compiacete regolare il conto col Signor Carburi; e tuttò quando mi spetono ordinarò al Signor Raffalovich a rimettere subito al Signor Grenville-Murray, come istruzione lor furono rilasciate.

Dietro i conti fatti col Signor Carburi mi spetono circa rubli argenti 10,460, ma nel caso che da questi occorese al Signor Carburi da 200 a 300 rubli argenti, liberamente riconoscerlo por tanto.

Nella speranza di sentire il tutto terminato in buona regola si saluto distintamente.

(Firmato) MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

(Translation.)

London, February 18, 1867.

I CONSIDER the sale made to you of my premises at Berdiansk under Nos. 1, 8, 9, by Mr. Luca Carburi as being in perfect order.

The document of the English Consul-General at Odessa, Mr. Grenville-Murray, was only issued after the consent of the guardians, as you will find out from the Malta papers in your possession.

In consequence of Mr. Grenville's absence from Odessa, the authorities there made difficulties to legalize the said document, which difficulties were the usual ones with the Russian authorities, there not being the means of largely bribing them ("quelle difficoltà fu la solita delle autorità Russe, non essendosi stato il mezzo di largamente grassare").

Now to remedy all that, and in order to bring the affair to an end, I have taken proper steps to have another document made by the Russian Consul here, and, together with the old one in possession of M. Raffalovich, I hope the affair will soon be finished.

This document will be delivered up to the said Mr. Luca Carburi, to whom will be given the power of retiring that with M. Raffalovich.

When all formalities are finished, and you are regular owners of the premises, you will please to make up the account with M. Carburi, and all I have to receive you will order M. Raffalovich to remit immediately to Mr. Grenville-Murray, according to the instructions left with them.

After the accounts are made up with Mr. Carburi, I shall have to receive about 10,460 roubles; but in case Mr. Carburi should require out of that sum from 200 to 300 roubles, you may freely pay him that.

In the hope of hearing that all is concluded in perfect order, &c.

(Signed) MARGHERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

Inclosure 27 in No. 156.

Mrs. Tagliaferro to Messrs. Tubino.

(Telegraphic.)

29 Febbrajo,* 1867, n.s.

CARBURI partito per Kertch con tutti le carte necessarie finire vendita stabile, non fabelle† Console Stevens.

Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich.

22 Febbrajo, 1867, o.s.

VI confermamo la nostra missiva da 16 corrente, alla quale uniamo nostra particolare inerente all' intese affare colla vedova Tagliaferro.

Ora ci giova dirvi a quel riguardo, che veniamo di ricevere da quella Signora un suo telegramma datato da Londra 29 ultimo caduto mese di Febbraio, così concepito:—

"Carburi partito per Kertch con tutti le carte necessarie finire vendita stabile, non fattibile Console Stevens."

Compiacetevi de dare comunicazione di quel dispaccio a codesto Signore Console Inglese, e compiaccevi dirci quel che ne pensa.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

February 22, 1867, o.s.

WE confirm our respects of the 16th instant, in which we inclosed our private letter relating to the known affair with the widow Tagliaferro.

* *Sic in orig.*

† The word "fabelle," I was advised, is a mistake. It should have been "fattibile," and so Messrs. Tubino understood it.—J. E. W.

At present, we must tell you, in that respect, that we have just received from that lady a telegram, dated from London, 29th February last, of the following purport:—

“Carburi has set out for Kertch with every necessary papers (documents) to finish purchase premises, which cannot be done by Consul Stevens.”

Please give communication of that telegram to the English Consul, and kindly inform us about what he thinks of it.

Inclosure 28 in No. 156.

Mr. Carburi to Messrs. Tubino, Brothers.

Napoli, 10 Marzo, 1867.

OMMESSI avvisarvi prima d'ora che sono portatore d'un nuovo documento del Console Inglese d'Odessa, Signore Murray, fatto in Londra e legalizzato da quel Console-Generale di Russia, quale Signore Murray scrive pure alli Signori Raffalovich di subito spedire quel vecchio documento in Kertch al Signor Deopik, por insieme con questo nuovo terminase totalmente la vendita dello stabile Tagliaferro, sicchè avvistate di tanto il Signore Deopik por preparare il tutto.

* * * * *

(Firmato) LUCA CARBURI.

(Translation.)

Naples, March 10, 1867.

I FORGOT to advise you before that I am the bearer of a new document from the British Consul of Odessa, Mr. Murray, made in London and legalized by the Consul-General of Russia; and Mr. Murray also writes to Messrs. Raffalovich to send the old document to Kertch, to M. Deopik, so that, with this new one, he can complete the sale of the property; of which inform M. Deopik, so that he can get everything ready.

* * * * *

(Signed) LUCA CARBURI.

Inclosure 29 in No. 156.

Second Certificate, dated February 19, 1867.

[This is given in full in the Report: see page 175.]

Inclosure 30 in No. 156.

List of Documents existing at this Consulate relating to the Property of Mrs. Tagliaferro.

Correspondence, semi-official. Consul-General Murray to Consul Cumberbatch.

June 11, 1863.—Requesting him to inquire about Mrs. Tagliaferro's property at Berdiansk, whether it could be sold.

July 9, 1863.—Asking to remit rents due on Mrs. Tagliaferro's property to him.

July 21, 1863.—Authorizes him to let Mrs. Tagliaferro's house, and requesting that 225 roubles rent may be sent to him.

August 11, 1863.—Sanctions any arrangement made by him for letting Mrs. Tagliaferro's house.

March 16, 1864.—To ask A. Ducovich for documents relating to the Tagliaferro property.

April 3, 1864.—Acknowledging receipt of papers sent by Mr. Cumberbatch.

Official correspondence with Mr. Wagstaff.

February 10, 1865.—Instructing him to obtain suspension of sequester on Tagliaferro's rent.

March 11, 1865.—Respecting power of attorney to sell Tagliaferro's garden.

March 18, 1865.—To ascertain precise nature and amount of claims made by the authorities on Mrs. Tagliaferro's property.

March 30, 1865.—Semi-official from Mr. T. G. Smith, requesting that draft of power of attorney for Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden be made at Berdiansk.

May 2, 1865.—Transmitting power of attorney to sell Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden.

September 5, 1865.—Semi-official respecting Mrs. Tagliaferro's property, and disposal of rents.

Correspondence. Consul Cumberbatch to Consul-General Murray.

July 1, 1863.—Giving estimates for repairs of Mrs. Tagliaferro's buildings.

July 6, 1863.—States what requires to be done immediately to Mrs. Tagliaferro's houses.

July 16, 1863.—That M. V. Deizen will give no more than 450 silver roubles for rent of Mrs. Tagliaferro's house.

October 12, 1863.—Relative to offer of Government to purchase Mrs. Tagliaferro's premises.

March 28, 1864.—Transmits documents left with Ducovich *re* Tagliaferro.

June 1, 1864.—Transmits account *re* Tagliaferro's estate.

Mr. Acting Consul Wagstaff to Consul-General Murray.

February 23, 1865.—Replying to despatch of the 10th February relative to sequester on Mrs. Tagliaferro's rents.

March 23, 1865.—Respecting sale of Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden.

March 30, 1865.—Nature of town authorities' claim against Mrs. Tagliaferro's property.

April 10, 1865.—Transmits draft of power of attorney.

May 22, 1865.—Relating to the sale of Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden.

June 5, 1865.—Transmits 100 silver roubles, part payment of Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden.

Dear Sir,

Odessa, June 11, 1863.

Many thanks for your last despatches and interesting private letter.

Mrs. Tagliaferro, an English lady of high respectability, who owns some property at Berdiansk, has requested me to apply to you for your kind aid and protection of her interest in that place. One of her houses is occupied by a M. Von Deizen, and another by a M. Laura, both of whom will probably be known to you. You would be doing a good action towards the widow and the orphan if you would send for these people and request them to pay the rent due as soon as possible, and at the same time to inquire whether they intend to continue to occupy the said houses, as, if not, perhaps steps might be taken to procure other tenants.

Mrs. Tagliaferro would be glad also to know, from credible authority, if the houses are absolutely in want of repairs, and if so, of what repairs. Would any respectable person make an estimate of any such repairs, if absolutely necessary, under your direction?

Finally, Mrs. Tagliaferro would be glad to know whether the said property could be sold under moderately favourable circumstances, and about what price would be bid for it.

Should you incur any expense on this account, I beg to hold myself responsible, and to remain, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Private.)

Dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, July 9, 1863.

I have your obliging letter of the 1st instant, and beg to thank you for the trouble you have taken about Mrs. Tagliaferro's houses at Berdiansk.

The rent which is now due from the tenants, I should be much obliged if you would kindly obtain and remit to me at once, as Mrs. Tagliaferro is at present at Malta for the settlement of an inheritance she receives from her father-in-law, and the money from these rents is wanted immediately for the support of her family here. I received Von Deizen's money, as he states, but more is now due, and I have received none from Laura.

Regarding the repairs, will you kindly let me know whether the 2,000 roubles necessary

could be borrowed at a reasonable interest on security of the houses, and assignment of the rents, or whether any respectable person would contract to perform the said repairs at a fair price, on the understanding that he was to be paid out of the rents.

Awaiting your early reply, I remain, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—Since writing the above your letter of the 6th instant has arrived. Mrs. Tagliaferro is, as I have said, at Malta, therefore pray use your influence to prevent her property being seized by the police till some arrangement can be made for the repairs. She is a widow with a large family of children, and any loss would fall very heavily upon her.

My dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, July 21, 1863.

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 16th instant just received.

I think it would be well if you could make a satisfactory arrangement with M. Von Deizen and M. Laura to execute the repairs of their houses themselves, taking them at a reduced rent in consequence, as you inform me that there would be so much difficulty and expense in borrowing money to execute them. But in this case, of course, they must bind themselves strictly to execute the said repairs to your entire satisfaction.

Have you any trustworthy person in your employment entirely under your control and authority who would accept the agency of these houses at a fair per-centage on the rents?

Have the kindness, for the sake of the poor widow lady left entirely unprotected in the world with so large a family, to let me have the benefit of your advice and local experience about this property. Is it better to sell it or to repair it? What course should you recommend for a person in necessitous circumstances.

Meantime, let me beg of you to send the 225 roubles, which Von Deizen is willing to pay, and also any rent that can be obtained from Laura. The arrangement made with them for the repairs of the houses must be made, if possible, to apply to future rents, the amount now due being absolutely required here for the support of Mrs. Tagliaferro's children during her absence from Odessa. She will return in about two months, and then some final settlement can be made.

I hold full authority from her; and if you will yourself receive Von Dezen's rent and transmit it here to me, I will furnish you with a receipt in due form.

Awaiting your early reply, I am, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—I shall hope to have the pleasure of seeing you, if you come through Odessa during your leave.

My dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, August 11, 1863.

I have duly received your letter of the 6th August.

Respecting Mrs. Tagliaferro's property, I am anxious to be guided entirely by your judgment and local experience, well assured that you will do the best possible for a widow and a countrywoman, with heavy claims upon her and straitened means. I therefore unhesitatingly sanction and agree to any arrangement that you may think prudent and proper. As for the 2,000 roubles required for repairs, Mrs. Tagliaferro has not got the money, and cannot get it here; but if you think that it could be borrowed at a reasonable interest at Berdiansk, perhaps it might be as well to borrow it, as property naturally sells better or lets better in a state of good repair than when dilapidated. Perhaps you will kindly favour me, therefore, with an answer upon this point.

I quite agree with you that it would be far better to sell the property altogether, if you can get a reasonable offer for it, as house property is usually a poor investment when the owner lives at a distance. Perhaps, therefore, if any proposal worth attention should be made to purchase it, you will be so obliging as to let me know, and I will consult with her about it.

Please to forward the rents as soon as possible, as they are badly wanted here; and believe me, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

My dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, March 16, 1864.

I inclose herewith a letter from M. Giacomo Tagliaferro Mr. Ducovich. Have the kindness to call upon Ducovich to deliver up to you any papers in his possession respecting the Tagliaferro property, and please transmit the same to me. Please also to take any legal steps that may be necessary formally to annul the procuration given to him some time ago by Giacomo Tagliaferro authorizing the said Ducovich to sell the said property. Have the kindness also to take steps for letting it at once, as the rent is of importance, and I am informed that tenants are easily found for the garden during the summer among the Germans. Have the kindness also to ascertain if there is any rent or other moneys arising from the Tagliaferro estate in the hands of the said Ducovich.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

My dear Sir,

April 3, 1867.

I have only time to acknowledge, with many thanks, your letter just received about Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden. I have sent the papers inclosed for translation, and when I have looked over them will write again.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

R. W. Cumberbatch, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, February 10, 1865.

I have the honour to inclose herewith, copy of a letter addressed to me by Mrs. Tagliaferro, a British subject, resident at Odessa, regarding the sequestration by the police of the rent of her house at Berdiansk, as guarantee for the payment of certain town dues, amounting to 404 roubles in silver, levied on her property in Berdiansk.

As Mrs. Tagliaferro has not yet come into legal possession of her property at Berdiansk, she cannot pay the sums levied upon it for the moment. I have, therefore, to instruct you to call on the Governor of Berdiansk, Prince Maksutoff, and explain to his Excellency, Mrs. Tagliaferro's position, with a view to the removal of the sequestration. You will state to Prince Maksutoff, that Mrs. Tagliaferro is a widow, with four children; that she is in straitened circumstances, and that therefore some remission of the tax is earnestly solicited; and if her request is granted by his Excellency, it will be a generous and merciful act towards her and her orphan children.

If, nevertheless, her prayer cannot be granted, you will state to his Excellency that if the sequestration is removed, I am ready to guarantee the payment of the amount required, supposing that reasonable time is given to her, or if by an immediate payment, any material pecuniary advantage can be obtained, I will advance the money myself to pay the sum required.

In conclusion, please to bring the case before his Excellency the Governor as one peculiarly entitled to kind consideration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul,
&c., &c., &c.,
Berdiansk.

Consul-General.

Copy of Inclosure.

M. le Consul-Général,

Je viens de recevoir un avertissement du Gouverneur de Berdiansk que la police a mit un séquestre sur les loyers de ma maison pour se garantir d'une dette de 404 roubles argent pour la "Kvarternaya Kommissya" et l'entretien de l'école de la ville.

Je viens vous prier, M. le Consul-Général, d'avoir la bonté d'écrire à votre Agent Consulaire dans cette ville pour qu'il prie M. le Gouverneur Prince Maksutoff qu'il fasse ôter le séquestre et qu'il m'accorde quelques mois de délai afin que j'ai le temps d'écrire et de recevoir une réponse de Malte, où sont tous mes intérêts; n'étant pas encore entré en propriété de ces maisons comme tutrice, je dois m'adresser à Malte pour avoir l'argent nécessaire pour payer cette dette. J'espère que M. le Prince aura égard à ma position, qui

n'est pas encore fixée, et qu'il concédera à ma prière, surtout si elle sera appuié par vous, M. le Consul-Général.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) MARGUERITA TAGLIAFERRO.

Odessa, le 27 Janvier, 1865.

Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, March 11, 1865.

I have the honour to request that you will see Mr. Carhuri, and ascertain from him the terms of a power of attorney or procuration, which Mrs. Tagliaferro will have to send to you for the sale of a small garden at Berdiansk, for which she has been offered 800 roubles. If you will be so good as to forward me a draft of the said power of attorney, with any instructions which may be necessary to render it duly valid and legal, it can be signed by Mrs. Tagliaferro, and legalized here. It will then be returned to you to effect the sale of the said garden, and the proceeds of the sale can be remitted in a draft in favour of Mrs. Tagliaferro through this office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
Consul-General.

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, March 18, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated February 23, informing me that Prince Maksutoff declined to accede to your request in favour of Mrs. Tagliaferro; and I have now to instruct you to ascertain what is the precise nature and amount of the claim made by the local authorities of Berdiansk, and for which they have sequestered Mrs. Tagliaferro's property.

You will also please to inform me without delay, of any particulars you can obtain as to the manner in which the said sequestration has been made, and also what sums have been already received under the said sequestration, and what is the exact sum still claimed by the town authorities; for in case of any informality or impropriety in these proceedings Mrs. Tagliaferro intends to appeal to Her Majesty's Ambassador, and to the superior Russian authorities at St. Petersburg.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
Consul-General.

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul,
&c. &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, March 30, 1865.

I am desired by Mr. Grenville-Murray to acknowledge receipt of your despatch and private letter dated 23rd instant, and, in reply, to inform you that Mrs. Tagliaferro, after having consulted the solicitor to the Consulate-General, finds that the power of attorney to enable you to sell her garden for her account cannot be drawn up here because she is not provided with an accurate description of the said garden.

I am, therefore, to request you to have the said power of attorney drafted at Berdiansk and to insert the clauses you may find necessary to prevent trouble or delay, and to forward it here for execution and legalization as soon as possible. The "Otkryti list" is not here; you will, therefore, have to insert a clause authorizing you to obtain it from the Town Hall at Berdiansk.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. G. SMITH.

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, May 2, 1865.

I have the honour to inclose to you herewith the power of attorney of Mrs. Tagliaferro duly signed and executed in accordance with your instructions, and to request you to

effect the sale of her garden at Berdiansk, under the conditions arranged, and to remit her the money through me as early as possible.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
Consul-General.

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq.,
Her Majesty's Acting Consul,
&c., &c., &c.,
Berdiansk.

My dear Sir,

British Consulate-General, Odessa, May 29, 1865.

I have received your letter stating that you will be unable to obtain the money for Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden, and she is willing to accept those conditions.

I must, therefore, beg of you to forward the 100 roubles paid on account into your hands to this office for her immediately, and I will transmit you her receipt.

Believe me, &c.

W. G. Wagstaff, Esq., (Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul,
Berdiansk.

P.S.— Please send the 100 roubles by return of post.

My dear Sir,

Odessa, September 5, 1865.

Mrs. Tagliaferro requests me to say that the balance of the rent of M. Von Deizen's house must be paid to Prince Maksutoff on account of the town dues. She will therefore be obliged by your receiving it and applying it to this purpose. Please also to forward to Mrs. Tagliaferro, M. Carhuri's account, and to inform her the precise sum of money due to the town after the payment of the rents now in hand.

With respect to the sale of the garden, please to do the best you can for Mrs. Tagliaferro's interest, and remit the money here as soon as possible.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, July 1, 1863.

In reply to your letter of the 11th June, 1863, respecting the property of Mrs. Tagliaferro, I have the pleasure of acquainting you that I have spoken with the present tenants of both houses, and they state that they have paid the rent in advance, to the 1st July, and that they are willing to make contracts if Mrs. Tagliaferro wishes. They requested the lady who let the houses, Mrs. Logorio, to make contracts, but she left Berdiansk without doing so. M. von Deizen tells me that he sent you the rent for two quarters, in January and March, 150 silver roubles each time, and that he corresponded with Mrs. Tagliaferro and acquainted her that he could not continue to pay 600 silver roubles any longer, but offered 450 silver roubles, and for him to make the repairs; and that if she did not accept, to let him know, and he would find another house. She only replied that she was coming to Berdiansk, since which he has no tidings. He will leave as soon as he finds another house, if she does not accept his offer. Laura is also willing to continue his lease.

Repairs to M. von Deizen's House.

Mortar and brickwork—

Colouring inside	200
Materials for inside and outside of magazines, houses, and to all, &c. ..	275 obligatory.
Work for ditto	350 ditto.
Balcony for magazine	30 ditto.
New windows, doors, and mending, and paint, for magazines	240
Boards and carpenter's work, paint, &c., and old bricks	150
Garden and magazine railings.	70

Silver roubles.

1,315
2 E 2

Laura House.

	Silver roubles.
Separating boards, &c.	50
Doors, windows, fire-places, painting, and roof-arranging	200
Magazine—	
Doors and windows, arranging floor, &c.	150
Steps, &c., 50 silver roubles; arranging side (falling down) 50 silver roubles	100
Two paths around premises	150 obligatory.
	650

The amount for repairs is somewhat startling; but all the premises are in a dilapidated state, particularly the large magazine, which has become the resort of all the rats of Berdiansk, since a quantity of hides were put there: they have completely undermined the foundations and the boards are much destroyed. The side wall of the magazine at Laura's house is falling down. Both magazines and the houses would let well if put into good order, but no one will take the larger magazines until repaired. An order has lately come out, desiring every proprietor to rewash and repair his buildings, and to make foot-paths around: and if this is not executed by August, the police will do it and seize the rent. It is a great pity that Mrs. Tagliaferro has so long neglected doing what was necessary, as the property is much depreciated. I do not think any one would give 12,000 silver roubles for the larger premises, and 3,500 silver roubles for the smaller. Formerly they were worth double that amount. I can only say, I shall be happy to assist Mrs. Tagliaferro in superintending any repairs and being paymaster, if she can send the cash, as I have a very trustworthy person who would keep the workmen within bounds; but I should recommend her to come here herself,—it would be more satisfactory for all parties.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) R. W. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, July 6, 1863.

With reference to my letter of the 29th of June,* I now hasten to add that it is necessary for Mrs. Tagliaferro to take immediate steps to repair the outside of her premises, and make the paths, as a notice has been posted, desiring the work to be commenced immediately; otherwise the police will execute the repairs, as the Imperial family is expected here in August. I think 600 to 800 silver roubles would be sufficient for the outside work.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, July 16, 1863.

In reply to your letter of the 9th of July, 1863, I have the pleasure to acquaint you that I have seen M. von Deizen. He tells me that he is ready to deposit or transmit half a year's rent, 225 silver roubles, but will give no more, as he says Mrs. Tagliaferro's silence gave consent to his offer of 450 roubles per annum. He is willing to perform the repairs, taking the house at 400 silver roubles, but will not remain without the outside repairs are made. As there is no contract, and Mrs. Tagliaferro has neglected her interests, I do not think we can compel him to pay more; indeed, as houses go now, it is quite insufficient: mine is infinitely superior, and I only pay that amount, 450 silver roubles.

Laura will not remain, without the repairs are made good to both house and magazine, and will only give 300 silver roubles per annum. He is willing to quit immediately; he has given notice, and he only awaits Mrs. Tagliaferro's decision; he has written several times to her. I can find no one who will advance money upon the house without 20 per cent. were paid, and even then it would not be advanced for many months. On the rent no one would advance. Have you, or has anyone else, *pleins pouvoirs*? If not, we can do nothing, as the house must be † at Kertch if mortgaged. I have spoken to the Governor, and he tells me that it is absolutely necessary to whitewash the house

* This refers evidently to the letter of 1st July, as there is no letter of 29th June.

† Word left out.

outside, and make the paths and ditches. Perhaps it may be avoided with a little management; but even if Mrs. Tagliaferro is not obliged to do it, I consider that the delay will cost 500 silver roubles more next year for the general repairs, as the roofs will be much more dilapidated, as well as the other parts of the buildings. She would also lose 600 silver roubles, at least, by the houses, &c., remaining unlet for six months.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, August 3, 1863.

I have just settled with M. von Deizen, he having been absent and much engaged lately. He is to pay 450 silver roubles per annum to make the repairs absolutely necessary to the house, which will take about 200 silver roubles. He is to make a contract for three years, but with permission after the expiration of the first year by giving three months' notice to quit the house if he is ordered to St. Petersburg. I shall also add that in case of sale he must quit also. I can only let the other house for three months for 75 silver roubles. I consider that if 12,000 to 13,000 silver roubles could be obtained, it would be very desirable for the property to be sold. The other at 3,500 silver roubles, that is Laura's premises, would be its full worth at present. Houses, &c., are at a discount. The Government want premises for the Custom-house and reception-house, and might become purchasers, and I think Von Deizen's house and magazines might suit them. I have a perfectly trustworthy person who would act as agent. I am to receive the money on Tuesday when the lease will begin.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, August 6, 1863.

I find that I omitted to put in the following sentence in my last letter which I copied at the last minute, and which I fear may cause some delay:—

"Let me know by telegram if you disapprove of the arrangement, as perhaps I should be able to withdraw; it is, however, the best that can be done."

Under the circumstances I have deferred signing the lease until I hear from you. Perhaps Von Deizen would agree to take the house for one year certain, but as he is the engineer for the mole he is likely to require it for three years, and it would not suit him to be obliged to leave. You can telegraph if you are desirous to save time. Nothing can be done as to letting the magazines and the other premises unless the repairs are made. The question is, whether it is worth while for Mrs. Tagliaferro to spend 2,000 silver roubles and perhaps more, to gain 10 per cent. upon the value of the property, as she would never obtain more than 1,200 silver roubles for one, and 300 silver roubles for the other per annum. I should say certainly not if she could obtain 12,000 silver roubles and 3,000 silver roubles by the sale.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, October 12, 1863.

I received your letter of the 19th of September, but having been confined to my house for some days by an abscess in the throat, I have been unable to look after the premises of Mrs. Tagliaferro, but this week I will do what I can to prevent decay during the winter. The lease is not yet made as I have not pressed the matter, as Von Deizen will most probably be recalled, and there will be an offer made to me shortly for the purchase of the premises by the Government. I do not think the offer will be more than 12,000 or 13,000

silver roubles; I should be very much inclined to accept it, as the premises are very dilapidated.

I remain, &c,
(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c. Odessa.

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, March 28, 1864.

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant I transmit herewith four documents which I received from M. Alexander Ducovich. You will perceive by his letter, a copy of which I inclose, that the garden, &c., is already let for this season, so that we can expect nothing from that source this year, and even if it were let the rent would not amount to above 80 silver roubles per annum. The 5 or 6 dessatines of land have been overworked for the last four years, so no one would give more than 20 or 30 silver roubles for the garden. There has been great neglect on the part of Mr. G. Tagliaferro and his agent, but I believe the latter considers himself free from any blame, as Mr. Tagliaferro never replied to any of his repeated applications about the sale of the property.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

My dear Sir,

Berdiansk, June 1, 1864.

According to your request, I transmit herewith my account *re* Tagliaferro estate, with the balance due, viz., 49 silver roubles 35 copecks.

I have left the keys in the charge of M. L. Carhuri, who will do all he can to assist Mrs. Tagliaferro. The large house is let for six months, ending 13th January, at 225 roubles, and when the money is due he will remit it to you.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, February 23, 1865.

In acknowledging the receipt of your despatch of the 10th instant, together with inclosure, I have the honour to inform you that in compliance with the instructions contained therein, I called on Prince Maksutoff, Governor of Berdiansk, and represented to his Excellency Mrs. Tagliaferro's circumstances, begging the removal of the sequester laid on the rent of her property, on the several conditions mentioned in your despatch; but the only answer I obtained from Prince Maksutoff was that his Excellency deeply regretted not being able to comply with Mrs. Tagliaferro's request, as the annual amount due by that lady had already been allowed to remain unpaid for the years 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864, and by so doing his Excellency subjected himself to being placed under judgment for the serious departure from the duties of his office, as Chief of the town of Berdiansk.

I take this opportunity of expressing my profound regret at not being able to assist Mrs. Tagliaferro in the embarrassing situation she is so unfortunately placed in.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul.*

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, March 30, 1865.

In compliance with the instructions contained in your despatch of the 18th instant, to be informed of the precise nature and amount of the claim made by the local authorities of Berdiansk against Mrs. Tagliaferro's property, I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation of the account as presented to me by his Excellency Prince Maksutoff.

Regarding the manner in which the sequestration was made, I beg to acquaint you that when the rent of the house, held by M. Von Diezen, 225 silver roubles, became due, it was paid over to Mrs. Tagliaferro's acting agent, M. Carhuri. The Governor of Berdiansk, on being acquainted of this fact, wrote officially to M. Carhuri, requesting him

not to transmit the money to Mrs. Tagliaferro, as that lady had neglected to pay for several years the taxes due to the town. At that time M. Carburi had paid the demand of the Treasurer of Berdiansk, the sum of 56 roubles, and he has stated to me his intention of paying into the police the further sum of 150 roubles, as part payment of the taxes due, rendering an account to Mrs. Tagliaferro of the balance, 19 roubles.

The account of taxes is much larger than I was at first given to understand, although the taxes for 1865 have been omitted, as the rule is to pay all town dues at the commencement of each year.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul.*

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,

&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, March 23, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 11th instant, requesting me to ascertain what papers are necessary to effect the legal sale of a garden situated in the vicinity of this town, belonging to Mrs. Tagliaferro, resident at Odessa; and, in reply, I have the honour to inform you that the documents at present required to terminate the sale were amongst those transmitted to you in Mr. Cumberbatch's letter of the 28th March, 1864; these, together with a procuration in Russian, duly signed and legalized, are all the papers requisite for the legal transfer of Mrs. Tagliaferro's property.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul.*

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,

&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, April 10, 1865.

Agreeable to the request expressed in Mr. Smith's letter of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a draft of the procuration necessary for me to effect the legal sale of Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden. To render the inclosed document valid, it must be recopied on Government stamped paper of 2 roubles, and Mrs. Tagliaferro to sign same in the presence of the Judge of the District Court of Odessa.

Upon the receipt of the power of attorney, I will close the sale of the garden on the terms mentioned in my private letter of the 23rd March.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul.*

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,

&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, May 22, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, inclosing me the power of attorney from Mrs. Tagliaferro to sell her garden.

At present I have to inform you that the purchaser has not fulfilled his agreement in paying the 300 roubles when I received the papers from Odessa; and that owing to the great dearth of capital at this place he has failed in taking up that amount on interest. He therefore requests that the term of payment might be prolonged to the 1st September, o.s., when he promises to pay the remaining 700 roubles, likewise the interest on the 300 roubles to that date. I see no other manner of arranging this question, and I hope it will be approved of by both Mrs. Tagliaferro and yourself. Should Mrs. Tagliaferro wish, I will transmit the 100 roubles deposit money paid by the purchaser.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul.*

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,

&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Sir,

Berdiansk, June 5, 1865.

Agreeable to the request expressed in your letter of the 29th ultimo, I beg to inclose herewith the sum of 100 roubles, being the amount I have received from the purchaser as part payment of Mrs. Tagliaferro's garden.

I am glad to hear that Mrs. Tagliaferro has accepted the conditions I proposed in my

letter to you of the 22nd May. When the term expires I will use my best endeavours in bringing about a satisfactory termination of the sale, and in the meanwhile will procure from the Town Hall such documents as may be necessary to effect the legal transfer of her property.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. GEO. WAGSTAFF, *Acting Consul*.

E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c., Odessa.

Inclosure 31 in No. 156.

Consul Zohrab to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Sir,

Berdiansk, July 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 15th instant, confirming your telegram of the same date (to which I replied by telegraph on the 16th, and in my despatch of the 18th, July), and requiring certain information respecting the property at Berdiansk belonging to the heirs of the late Mr. Simon Tagliaferro.

I beg to inclose copy of a letter I addressed to Mr. Carburì on this subject, with a list of questions which, after appending replies, he returned to me. His answer is also annexed.

You will perceive that Mr. Carburì declines to give copies of the telegrams he has received respecting the Tagliaferro, as he deems he would, without Mrs. Tagliaferro's authority, be abusing a trust by so doing.

As soon as I get an answer to my letter to the Berdiansk Douma, explaining the rectification of the numbers of the Tagliaferro property, and transmitting me a copy of M. Carburì's petition, I shall forward it to you.

I perfectly remember Mrs. Tagliaferro being in treaty for the sale of her property here in the early part of 1865. I was then in Odessa, and I heard the matter spoken of several times by her, and by Mr. Grenville-Murray. I then believed that the property belonged to her alone. So far as I can recollect, 13,000 roubles were proposed, but she demanded 16,000 roubles.

The copies of correspondence I sent to you in my despatch of the 18th July, will show that the houses here have been let for several years. The magazines were only taken up last year, I believe. The rents appear, by the correspondence, to have been remitted generally to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Mr. W. G. Wagstaff was instructed by Mr. Grenville-Murray, on behalf of Mrs. Tagliaferro, to sell a small garden here, which he did for 800 roubles in 1865. The copies of the correspondence explain the transaction. The value was remitted by Mr. Wagstaff to Mrs. Tagliaferro.

When I declined to accept the 1,434 roubles, placed to my credit at Mr. Mavrogordato's of Odessa, for the repairs of the Tagliaferro property at Berdiansk, Mr. Grenville-Murray told me that, as he was one of the executors or administrators, it would be sufficient to notify my intention of declining to receive the 1,434 roubles to him, and he would inform Mr. Tagliaferro, of Malta, of my determination. I accordingly did so, and he, at once, as he told me, wrote to Malta on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. ZOHRAB.

Inclosure 32 in No. 156.

Messrs. Tubino Brothers to Messrs. Raffalovich.

(Particolare.)

Berdiansk, 16 febbrajo, 1867.

DALLA pregiata vostra del 7 corrente. vidimo tutto quanto amichevolmente ci riferite a riguardo della trappola che ci era tesa per porci in sacco nel noto affare Tagliaferro. Ci riesce veramente strano che una autorità Consolare Inglese prestasse la mano ad un tanto fatto, ponendo così a repentaglio il suo onore e la di lui posizione.

Noi non sappiamo come meglio, Signori, esprimervi la nostra riconoscenza dell' avviso ed informazioni particolari dateci a questo riguardo.

Stiamo ora in attenzione della lettera responsiva alla vostra di codesto nuovo Console Inglese, Signor Stevens, onde regolare i nostri passi in questa pratica. Sarà poco male se

la vendita del noto stabile andrà in fumo, e in di che occorrendo non insisteremmo; ma ciò che ci cale si è, che dietro alla vendita formale fattaci dal procuratore della vedova Tagliaferro, sancito dal vecchio Console Inglese, noi intanto facevamo, in aspettativa si ponesse in ordine il certificato rilasciato dalla stessa autorità, le riparazioni le più indispensabili al magazzino dello stabile in discorso, onde porlo in istato da poterne servire, spese che oggi si ammontano ad una discreta somma, le quale a giusto titolo intendiamo venirne ripienati.

Intanto, ottimi signori ed amici, vi preghiamo di tenerne di ciò discorso con codesto Signor Console, e saperci dire quel che ne pensa; poichè nel caso ci si obbietasse tale rimborso, noi non solo lo reclameranno dalla vedova Tagliaferro e dal precedente Console, ma per il mezzo delle nostre autorità Consolari Italiane faremo conoscere a Londra al suo Governo l'inganno che ci ordina un suo rappresentante.

Voi, Signori, meglio di qualunqu' altri, potrete far fede dell' emergenza, poiche questo affare passò intieramente in vostri mani; e pensiamo all' occorrenza sarete per far fede dell' occorse, venendone questionati da chi di ragione.

Però confidiamo nella vostra amicizia, e rettezza di codesto Signor Console Stevens, che questo affare verrà ultimato senza pregiudizialità d'alcuno; ed in questa lusinga, e nell' attesa di vostri favorevoli riscontri, abbiamo il bene di cordialmente reverirvi.

Anticipatamente grati su quanto farete in proposito, vi salutiamo con sensi di vera amicizia.

(Firmato)

FLLI. TUBINO DI GIAC.

(Translation.)

(Private.)

Berdiansk, February $\frac{16}{28}$, 1867.

FROM your esteemed letter of the 7th instant, we perceived all you so friendly tell us with regard to the trap which has been set for us to put us in a bag in the known Tagliaferro affair. It is to us really strange that a British Consular authority could lend its hand to such an act ("tanto fatto"), thus placing his honour and position in jeopardy ("repentaglio"). We know not, Sir, how best to express our gratitude for the friendly information given us in this regard.

We now await the reply to you from the new English Consul, Mr. Stevens, to guide us in this affair. It will matter little if the sale of the premises does end in smoke (and in case of need, we would not insist on it); but what is of importance to us is that, upon the formal sale made to us by the agent of the widow Tagliaferro, sanctioned by the former English Consul, we in the meantime, in expectation that the certificate issued to us by the said authority would be put in order, made the repairs most requisite for the warehouse in question, in order to put it in a serviceable state, the cost of which amounts to a considerable sum, which, with just right, we intend to have made good to us.

In the meantime, good sirs and friends, we beg you will speak to the Consul on the subject [meaning Mr. Stevens], and tell us what he thinks of it; for in case we do not recover our disbursements we shall not only claim it from the widow Tagliaferro and from the former Consul, but, through our Italian Consular authorities, we shall make known to his Government in London the deceit practised on us by one of its Representatives.*

You, gentlemen, better than any other, can in this emergency give testimony, since this affair passed entirely through your hands; and we doubt not, in case of necessity, you will be ready to give testimony of what has passed, in case you should be asked by any one having a right to ask.

However, we trust to your friendship, and in the integrity of Mr. Consul Stevens, that this affair will be ended without prejudice to anybody.

Clinging to this hope, and awaiting favourable replies, &c.

(Signed)

FLLI. TUBINO DI GIAC. (TUBINO BROS.).

Inclosure 33 in No. 156.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to M. Tubino, August 22, 1867:

and

M. Tubino to Acting Consul-General Stevens, August 28, 1867.

Acting Consul-General Stevens to M. Tubino.

Stimatissimi Signori,

Odessa, il di 22 Agosto, 1867.

LORCHE trovavasi in Odessa il di lei Signor Fratello Giuseppe, mi disse aver avuto comunicazione dal Signor Carburi, di qualche telegrafi spediti all'indizzo del Signor

* See No. 175.

Carburi dalla Signora Margherita Tagliaferro da Londra, datati in Aprile scorso, ove essa Signora Tagliaferro pregò il Signor Carburi “ di persuadere i Fratelli Tubino di far sparire i due certificati rilasciati dal Console-General Murray per la vendita dello stabile Tagliaferro, perchè il Signor Stevens cercava di rovinar essa Tagliaferro, ed il suo superiore il Console-Generale.”

Evidenza in riguardo a questi telegrafi essendo necessaria per fini dell' inchiesta (tutt'ora quasi terminata) del Signor Wilkins, ed il Signor Carburi avendo ricusato di fornirmi copie, vengo a pregarse colla presente di farmi sapere il giusto loro contenuto, da quel che ad ella è noto, e l'epoca della loro spedizione da Londra.

Mi dispiace non poter per il momento rispondere alla lettera della di lei ditta del $\frac{11}{23}$ Giugno scorso, ma spero frà breve esser in estato di ciò fare.

Pregandola, &c.

(Firmato) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Odessa, August 22, 1867.

WHEN your brother Joseph was in Odessa, he told me that M. Carburi had communicated to him some telegrams, despatched from London by Mrs. Margherita Tagliaferro to M. Carburi, dated in April last, wherein Mrs. Tagliaferro begged M. Carburi “to persuade the brothers Tubino to make disappear the two certificates issued by Consul-General Murray for the sale of the Tagliaferro premises, because Mr. Stevens sought to ruin her (Tagliaferro) and his superior the Consul-General.”

Evidence with regard to these telegrams being necessary for the ends of Mr. Wilkins' inquiry (now nearly terminated), and M. Carburi having refused to furnish me with copies, I beg you by the present to let me know their exact contents, from what is known to you, and the epoch of their despatch from London.

I regret that I cannot for the moment reply to the letter of your firm of the $\frac{11th}{23rd}$ June last, but I trust to be able to do so shortly.

Begging, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ALEX. STEVENS.

M. Tubino to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

Illustrissimo Signore,

Berdiansk, li $\frac{1}{2}$ Agosto, 1867.

SONO onorato del compito di lei foglio del 22 corrente.

Durante l'epoca che venivano slanciati da Londra gl'intesi dispacci dalla vedova Tagliaferro al Signor Luca Carburi di quì, io era assente, e per ciò non posso scientemente riferirle il loro tenore; soltanto mio fratello Giuseppe al mio ritorno non mi fece ignorare la sostanza dei medesimi, che era a poco appresso come riferitole verbalmente,—cosa che mi impressionava assai, stentando a credere che una dama come la Signora Tagliaferro potesse immaginare degli agguati.

L'epoca che furono spediti quei dispacci la ignorò, siccome questi furono ricevuti durante la mia assenza; posso però indicarle essere partito da quì ai primi di Marzo, e ritornato alla fine d'Aprile, stile Russo, ma calcolo siano stati mandati da Londra in quest' ultimo mese. Questo è quanto posso riferire alla vostra Signoria illustrissima a questo riguardo.

Duolmi che il mio affare possa ancora prolungarsi, non rimanendomi così più tempo a poter continuare i lavori di riparazione dell' acquistato stabile Tagliaferro; ma pero ella ha la gentilezza di lusingarmi che potrà in breve darmene contezza, ciò che apprenderò con piacere onde non aver più a pensare sù d'un tanto malaugurato affare.

In quest' attesa, &c.

(Firmato) LZO. TUBINO.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Berdiansk, August $\frac{1}{2}$, 1867.

I AM honoured by your polite letter of the 22nd instant.

During the epoch when the understood (referred to) despatches were flashed from London by the widow Tagliaferro to M. Luca Carburi, of this place, I was absent, and therefore cannot willingly refer to their tenor; but on my return my brother Joseph did not leave me in ignorance of their substance, which was very nearly as referred to you verbally—a matter which greatly impressed me, not wishing to believe that a lady like Mrs. Tagliaferro could imagine such traps (“agguati,” ambushes).

I am ignorant as to the epoch when those telegrams were despatched, as they were

received during my absence; I can, however, indicate to you that I left this in the first days of March and returned at the end of April, Russian style; but I reckon that they were sent from London in this last month (April). This is all I can refer to you, Sir, in this regard. I regret that my business may yet be prolonged, thus leaving me no time to continue the repairs of the acquired Tagliaferro premises; you, however, are kind enough to give me hope that you will shortly be able to offer me advice, which I will learn with pleasure, so that I shall not have to think any longer over this unlucky affair.

Awaiting this, &c.

(Signed) LZO. TUBINO.

Inclosure 34 in No. 156.

Mr. William Stevens to Acting Consul-General Stevens.

(Extract.)

La Valetta, Malta, June 17, 1867.

SIMONE, the son of Biagio Tagliaferro, and the husband of Margarita (who is a Pole), died in Odessa (Russia) in 1859, having an interest with his father and brother, Girolamo, living in Malta, in a house and stores at Berdiansk.

He left four children, Biagio-Felice, Eduardo, Arianna, and Alberta, all of whom are still minors now at school in England, where the mother lately was, and from whence she writes her procurator here, Mr. Dominico George Page (the successor of Dr. F. Arpa), as for documents to prove her right over the Berdiansk property, and begging him to procure from Girolamo Tagliaferro some document to prove that he had no objection to its being disposed of. * * * * *

Simone Tagliaferro died without making any will.

Being domiciled at the time, and for many years previous thereto, in Russia, I presume the division of any property he may have left will be governed by Russian law, especially in regard to the landed property in Berdiansk; and it is possible that his widow may come in for a share, with the four children.

In any case I should say, in a country where Tribunals exist, these have jurisdiction, even where foreigners are concerned, to establish the rights of the succession to the estate, the guardianship of minors, and so forth, not the British Consulate.

Biagio Tagliaferro died in Malta on the 25th November, 1862, leaving a scaled will, opened under the authority of the Second Hall of Her Majesty's Civil Court and then enrolled, under date of the 13th December, 1862, in the acts of the Notary Annunziato Frendo Micallef—a very lengthy document and of which I see no use forwarding you a copy.

Of this will, Gerolamo, the testator's son, is left as executor, and also curator and administrator of the proportion or quota of the inheritance devolving to the children of Simone, deceased, and Giacomo Tagliaferro, another son.

On the 6th March, 1863, the executor made in the same notorial acts an inventory of Biagio Tagliaferro's estate; and on the 26th March, 1863, the Court confirmed him as executor.

By this inventory, three-ninths of the entire estate are set down as devolving to the four children of Simone, minors, and its value put down as 10,446*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* sterling.

The testator had ordered 83*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, to be assigned from the interest of the capital, for the education of Simone's children, subject to increase at the direction of the executor.

In making up the division of the estate, the Berdiansk property, said to have cost 25,000 silver roubles, and of which one-half only was held by Simone's heirs, assignment to them was made of the other half at the reduced price of 6,000 roubles for this half, and thus they now are proprietors of the whole.

Simone had previously acquired from Giacomo one-fourth and added it to the one-fourth originally possessed,

On the 1st of May, 1863, the widow Margarita, who had repaired to Malta, petitioned the Second Hall of Her Majesty's Civil Court praying to be named tutrix (guardian) and curatrix of her children, minors, which petition the Court notified to Gerolamo Tagliaferro, as curator and administrator of the quota devolving to these children under the will of Biagio Tagliaferro, their grandfather, of which will, Gerolamo was also the executor, as I have already mentioned.

He filed his answer, and, on the 25th May, 1863, the Court decreed that for the liquidation and definitive settlement in Malta of the interests of her children, minors, in the estate of their grandfather, Biagio Tagliaferro, she, Margarita, their mother and widow

of Simone, stands named as special curatrix on fulfilling of the forms and solemnities of this petition and decree.

I inclose you an office copy, which seems to me all that you require to prove that her curatorship is a special one, limited exclusively to the interests at Malta under the grandfather's will, and not embracing the Berdiansk or any other property whatsoever.

No other party is joined with her in the curatorship, but, mind, she may have got a Consular or judicial decree in Russia to the same effect as regards the property in that country; but even this, without a special authority of sale, would never carry with it authority to sell the Berdiansk property, nor could I imagine any such an authority to have been given without an obligation to lodge or invest the proceeds, or such proportion as belonged to the minors, supposing the mother to have, under the laws of Russia, any share under the circumstance of Simone having made no will.

We know of no marriage settlement between him and Margarita.

The marriage was contracted in Russia.

The widow's next step was to get an increase of the allowance for the children and herself, representing herself to have no means of her own, and that the Berdiansk property was falling into decay, and brought in little or no rent, whilst the expenses of living at Odessa were very heavy, all which she proved by Consular and other documents.

On the 26th June, 1863, she got an increase up to 300*l.* per annum; on the 30th June, 1865, on the plea of increased wants as the children grew up, to 350*l.*, and later to 490*l.* per annum, which she now regularly draws in half-yearly payments from the executor of Biagio Tagliaferro, who contested this increase unsuccessfully, pointing out especially that there was no obligation for the widow and children to reside in Russia, and, indeed, that the children were in England, and he also pointed out that the widow on leaving Odessa for Malta had drawn 302*l.*

The Court, however, in assigning her this allowance subjected same to revision and consequent proportionate reduction whensoever the Berdiansk property found tenants.

A petition made to the Consul at Odessa and some certificates of this latter, filed in support of her prayer to the Malta Court, appeared to have been retired by her procurator Dr. Arpa, 16th February, 1865.

I do not know that I can give you any other information in this matter.

If the Berdiansk property be let at anything like a remunerative rental, or one worth a king for a reduction of the ordered allowance, it would be for the interests of the minors that the fact be communicated to Mr. Gerolamo Tagliaferro, the executor of Biagio Tagliaferro, the party paying the same under the supposition that no rent is being derived from it, and this would be a proper subject for Consular interference, with due proof.

I know that Gerolamo Tagliaferro also considers it advisable to sell the Berdiansk property, if really it is worthless and falling into decay, but then the proceeds, or rather such part as appertain to the minors should be secured by investment for their benefit, a matter I consider more properly within the judicial than the Consular jurisdiction in Russia.

Inclosure 35 in No. 156.

Translation from Volume X of the Russian Code of Law.

§ 266. ALL the moveable and immoveable property of the minor is to be received by the Tutor, according to inventory made in the presence of a member of the Tutor Office of the nobles ("Dworjanskaja Opeka") or Orphans' Tribunal ("Sirotsky Sood") with the assistance of two witnesses, according to the regulation of the IIIrd Book of the Civil Code, a copy of which is to be delivered to the Dworjanskaja Opeka, or Sirotsky Sood, and one to remain in the hands of the Tutor.

§ 268. Moveable property, such as documents, bills, and other objects belonging to the minor, to be kept in a safe and sure place, not to be spoiled or lost; money, if the minor is noble, to be placed in private hands, under good security, or into the Bank, if not a nobleman, in sure hypothecary bills, and simple bills, or to employ in trade, and so on.

§ 269. The immoveable property of the minor, such as estates of land, houses, and different factories and serfs of them, to be kept by the Tutor in such good order and to be brought in such a good state to obtain punctual good income, and that the Government taxes be paid exactly.

§ 270. (2.) That all necessary and useful buildings be not ruined, these to be repaired in proper time.

§ 273. The Tutor has to take proper measures that the incomes of the minor be paid

in proper time, to economize in the expenses, and for that purpose to remove from the minor all luxurious and superfluous expenses and from the persons intended for his education and service, and to keep proper accounts and books of the income and expenses.

§ 277. The sale of property belonging to the minor to be made in the following order:—

(1.) Victuals and goods subject to spoil and loss, to be sold by the Tutor without any particular order, but that proper account be delivered concerning such sales to the Dworjanskaja Opeka or Sirotsky Sood.

(2.) The sale of goods not subject to spoil or loss, such as gold, silver, and precious stones, is allowed only in the following cases:—

(a.) If it is necessary for the payment of debts concerning the inheritance of the minor or for his own expenses.

(b.) If the said effects were articles of trade of the persons of whom the inheritance was obtained, the sale of these effects to be made according to the regulation explained here for the sale of immoveable property.

§ 277. (3.) The sale of immoveable property and serfs is allowed:—

(a.) At a distribution of property between the seniors and minors.

(b.) For the payment of debts of the inheritance.

(c.) If buildings are destroyed by time, and if the maintaining of the property costs more than the property is worth.

In all these cases of necessity of sale of immoveable property of minors, the Tutor has to give notice of it to the Dworjanskaja Opeka or Sirotsky Sood, which reports about it to the Court of the Civil Tribunal ("Grasdanskaja Palata") which presents it to the Governor and he presents it to the Senate. The sale of such property without the consent of the Senate will be void, and all the damages sustained by the purchasers for such acts of sale, fall on the responsibility of the Tribunal that made them.

§ 277. (4.) The sale of property of minors without the permission of the Court of Law, but simply by the order of the Tutor, is to be made by auction or open biddings by the Tutors under the inspection of the Dworjanskaja Opeka and Sirotsky Sood.

§ 281. Loans on security of property of minors from private persons or public institutions, should the profit and welfare of minors require it, are to be made by no means in any other way but by the consent of the Senate.

§ 286. Tutors as subordinated to the Dworjanskaja Opeka and Sirotsky Sood, are obliged—

(1.) Necessary and doubtful cases to submit to the decision of these Courts and await their instructions.

(2.) At the expiration of every year, in January to give proper account of the incomes and expenses of the entertaining and education of the minor and of the trade, if such exists and at the end of the management a complete account of all, &c.

§ 287. The Dworjanskaja Opeka, and Sirotsky Sood at the revision of these accounts are to observe that the property of the minor be managed properly, that the minor should receive a good education and proper entertainment, also the persons that are placed about him, and that the guardianship should be instituted in a way that the whole property and the minor himself should have a good profit and results but not to destroy and to ruin it.

§ 290. Tutors and managers, in case of negligence and of bad intentions on their part, to the loss of personal rights and of property trusted to them, are responsible by their own property for the damages sustained or to be sustained by the minor, &c.

§ 294. If the guardianship consists of one of the parents they are subject to the same regulations as hereabove explained for private Tutors with regard to the sale hypothecation of property as well as the accounts to be delivered.

Inclosure 36 in No. 156.

Two Petitions of Madame Tagliaferro to the Tribunal at Kertch, to be put in possession of a Garden belonging to her Children, and the property sold to Messrs. Tubino described "as the sole property of her Children."

(Translation.)

THE British subject, Marguerita Tagliaferro, tutrix over her children, prays as follows:—

Inclosing an original deed, by which the merchant Giacomo Tagliaferro sold and

gave up possession to my children, Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Adriana, and Alberto, a garden belonging to him, as stated in the act of sale, in the town of Berdiansk, for 800 roubles, which money is part of a debt he owed to my deceased husband, Simon Tagliaferro, father of the above-said children.

I pray :—

(To this petition the guardian of her children*).

That it be ordered, according to section 925, and following paragraphs of the tenth volume, first part of the Civil Code, that the police of Berdiansk put me (as tutrix of my children, Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Adriana, and Alberto), in possession of the above-named garden, with buildings belonging to it, and yard, and to deliver me a title-deed of it,

June, 1864. This petition was sent by post to the magistrate of Kertch-Yenikale. This petition was composed and written out by a burgher of the town of Proutson, Government of Grodnow, Trelaph Ephim Levin. (†British subject, Margarita Felice Tagliaferro, has put her hand.)

The residence of the petitioner is in the first section of the town of Odessa, in the house of the Councillor Constantine Papoudoff.

By an ukase of His Imperial Majesty, in this magistracy.

After hearing these petitions, it is decreed (found), that the tutrix over the children of the deceased British subject, Simon Tagliaferro, his widow Margaret, in the petitions sent by post to this magistracy, has presented with the first an Act of Partition made in the British Island Malta, dated $\frac{1}{2}$ th December, 1863, between the partners of the commercial house of Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons, and the heirs of Biagio Tagliaferro, the house, with buildings and yard, in the town of Berdiansk, in the forty-third quartal (square), under Nos. 1 and 10 in the Zelinoi Street, which had belonged to all the partners of the said commercial house of Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons, of which her deceased husband, Simon, the son of Biagio, Tagliaferro became the sole property of the children of her deceased husband, Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Ariana, and Alberto; and with the second petition a deed by which the merchant Tagliaferro sold and gave up in possession to the children Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Ariana, and Alberto, the garden belonging to him by an Act of Sale made in Berdiansk, for 800 roubles, and prays, according to section 925, and following paragraphs in volume ten, part one, of the Civil Code. That it be ordered that the police of Berdiansk put her (as tutrix of her children), in possession of the above-named house, with buildings belonging to it, and yard, and also of the garden, and to deliver her a title-deed. But referring to the second sub-paragraph of section 926, all acts deeds (deeds) concerning immoveable property in a town are to be presented to the magistracy; and as the property of the orphans Tagliaferro is in Berdiansk, which is out of the radius (district) of Kertch-Yenikale, and as to be put in possession of that property application must be made to the magistracy as Berdiansk.

Therefore, the petition of Margaret Tagliaferro, as it is improperly addressed to this magistracy, according to the sixteenth paragraph of the 264 section, volume ten, second part, is returned according to section 268, with superscription to be handed by the police of Odessa to Margaret Tagliaferro, and claim from her 40 copecks (about 1s. 1d.) for stamped paper used in her business, which is to be sent to the Exchequer and noted.

June 18, 1867.

(Signed) Burgomeister (Mayor) P. CANOUNIKOFF.
Councillor TITOF.

(Translation.)

THE British subject Margarita (Felice) Tagliaferro, tutrix of her children, prays as follows :

By a deed of partition done in the British Island, in the town of Malta, dated $\frac{1}{2}$ th December, 1863, between the partners of the commercial house of Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons and the heirs of Biagio Tagliaferro. The house with buildings and yard in the town of Berdiansk, on forty-third street under Nos. 1 and 10 in the Zelinoi Street, which belonged to the partners of the aforesaid commercial house, of which my deceased husband, Simon Tagliaferro, was a partner, became the sole property of my children Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Ariana, and Alberto, and therefore inclosing in original the above said Act of Partition with translation of it in Russian, I pray :—

* In Russian, in Mrs. Tagliaferro's writing. Here follows the prayer of the petitioner, the remaining portion of the signature and execution coming at the end.—J. E. W.

† Written in Russian, apparently in Mrs. Tagliaferro's handwriting.—J. E. W.

(To this Petition the guardian of her children.)*

That it be ordered, according to section 925 and following paragraphs of the tenth volume, first part, of the Civil Code, that the police of Berdiansk put me (as tutrix of my children, Biagio-Felice, Odoardo, Ariana, and Alberto) into possession of the above-said house, with the buildings belonging to it, and yard, and to deliver me a title deed to it,

June, 1864. This Petition was sent by post to the magistracy of Kertch-Yenikale. This Petition was composed and written out by the burger, Grelaph Ephim Levin, of the town of Proutson, in the Government of Grodnow (†British subject, Margarita Felice Tagliaferro, has put her hand).

The residence of the petitioner is in the first section of the town of Odessa in the house of the Councillor Constantine Papoudoff.

Inclosure 37 in No. 156.

Register of Marriages, &c.

Inclosure 37A in No. 156.

The Registrar-General to Mr. Wilkins.

*General Register Office, Somerset House,
November 29, 1867.*

Sir,

IN conformity with the desire of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have examined the documents transmitted by you to me connected with alleged irregularities on the part of Mr. E. C. G. Murray, Consul-General at Odessa, with respect to marriages of British subjects under Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68; and, for the information of Lord Stanley, I proceed to make the following observations:—

The irregularities appear to me to have been numerous and of a very grave character.

With respect to the marriage of N. A. Ullo and C. Cordich, registered as No. 11, and solemnized on 23rd November, 1861, it is evident that the notice was received on 22nd November, that the licence was granted on that same day, and the marriage solemnized and registered on that same day.

This is in direct contravention of the 3rd, 6th, and 9th sections of the statute above-mentioned.

The 18th section of that statute renders a Consul liable to the same penalties as a Registrar in England and Wales.

In England and Wales a registration officer issuing a licence for marriage before the expiration of seven days after the entry of the notice is, under the 40th section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, guilty of felony.

Therefore, I hold that the Consul-General of Odessa, if he had been prosecuted within three years after the commission of this offence (6 and 7 Will. IV, cap 85, sec. 41), might have been convicted of felony and sentenced to penal servitude.

It also appears, that the facts are not correctly recorded in the register. It is there stated that the marriage was solemnized in the British Consulate according to the rites of the Church of England; whereas it appears that that was not the case, and that the marriage was solemnized according to the rites of the Church of Rome in a Roman Catholic Chapel.

For this false entry, I hold that Mr. E. C. G. Murray might have been prosecuted under the 36th section of 24 and 25 Vict., cap. 98, and, if convicted, might have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, or not less than three years.

With respect to the marriage of L. Noonan and E. Vasalivia, registered as No. 13, and solemnized on 5th October, 1862, it is evident that the notice was received on 24th September, 1862, and licence was granted on that same day in direct contravention of the 3rd and 6th sections of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

Therefore, in this instance also, as it appears to me, the Consul-General might have been proceeded against for felony.

I have also with much attention investigated the marriage of J. Dinsmore and E. Sosnosky, registered as No. 18, and solemnized on 17th January, 1864. Also the marriage of W. Laney and S. Cramer, registered as No. 19, and solemnized on the 14th September, 1865.

* In Mrs. Tagliaferro's handwriting. Here follows the prayer of the petitioner, the remaining portion of signature and execution coming at the end.—J. E. W.

† Written in Russian, in Mrs. Tagliaferro's handwriting.—J. E. W.

Also the marriage of G. Goddard and Mary Vasalivia, registered as No. 20, and solemnized on the 18th October, 1865.

Also the marriage of R. F. Oakley and E. Fletcher, registered as No. 17, and solemnized on the 23rd August, 1863.

With respect to these four marriages, the irregularities committed are glaring, and in more than one instance may be held to be fatal to the validity of the marriage. I think it unnecessary to state at present the exact nature of these irregularities in detail; but they are of such a nature as to have rendered the Consul-General liable to heavy penalties.

With respect to the certified copies of marriages transmitted to me here from Odessa, I have had constant occasion to complain of Mr. E. C. G. Murray's neglect of duty.

Considering that for every marriage by license in a Consulate the Consul receives the large fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, I think it unpardonable that he should habitually be guilty of irregularities rendering such marriages null and void, and subsequent issue illegitimate. British subjects in foreign countries, ignorant of the precise particulars required by law, naturally imagine that so high a functionary as a Consul-General, receiving a large salary and an additional fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, would consider himself bound to see that his fellow-subjects were not deceived in a matter so important.

It is also my duty to report that from January 1863 to December 1865, no Returns of Births or Deaths, recorded at Odessa, in conformity with the letter from the Foreign Office of 7th November, 1849, have been transmitted to me here, although of births twenty appear to have been registered.

This is also a grave irregularity, in direct contravention of the orders of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE GRAHAM.

Inclosure 38 in No. 156.

Original Letter from M. Horowitz to Mr. Laney; the body of the Letter being in the handwriting of Mr. Lyon, and the signature that of M. Horowitz.

Sir,

Consulate of Denmark, Odessa, June 15, 1867.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I have to state that I consider your marriage legal and lawful before God and man, and performed in due accordance with the laws and regulations of your church and country.

As I was officially empowered, by letter of the 10th September, 1866, to act for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, E. C. Grenville-Murray, Esq., copy of which document I shall at any time be happy to give you if required, I can only express my astonishment at the erroneous opinions of others, to which you allude in your letter, declaring your marriage illegal, such declarations being contrary to the Acts of Parliament, viz., 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 86, sections 13 and 19.

This difference of opinion, however, in a matter of such vital importance to you, has induced me to refer the matter direct to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. HOROWITZ, *Consul.*

Inclosure 39 in No. 156.

*Two Drafts of Letters purporting to have been addressed by Mr. Laney to M. Horowitz, but in Mr. Lyon's handwriting.**

Odessa, June 18, 1867.

A MR. WILKINS and Mr. Stevens called upon me on Saturday to inform me that my marriage, which was witnessed by you as Acting Consul, is illegal. The objection they made was that it was a Christian marriage, witnessed by a Jew. As you are aware, you refused to permit the marriage without the consent of the Rev. Mr. Clark, who performed the ceremony in your presence, and that of other respectable people, I respectfully beg that you will inform me what I must do under the circumstances.

I remain, &c.

* See Nos. 139, 140, and 146.

Inclosure 40 in No. 156.

M. Rouville to Mr. Wilkins.

Monsieur,

Odessa, le 30 Mai, 1867.

VOICI les renseignements exactes que vous m'avez prié de vous transcrire sur ce qui s'était passé entre M. le Consul Grenville-Murray et moi au sujet du mariage de M. Oakley.

Je n'ai fait connaissance de M. Oakley qu'au moment de son mariage avec Mademoiselle Flécher ; je déclare que c'était un parfait gentilhomme. Mais j'étais, et je suis encore, très lié avec M. Hunniball et Madame mère de Mademoiselle Flécher ; M. Hunniball étant le mari en secondes noces avec Madame Flécher. Quand je suis arrivé dans le Gouvernement de Kieff à Steblow, M. et Madame Hunniball y étaient depuis deux ans. Pendant six ans ma famille et la sienne, malgré que tout en étant dans la même propriété nous étions éloignés de trois verstes, n'avons pas cessé de nous fréquenter ; mes enfants jouaient avec les siens. Mademoiselle Flécher n'avait à notre arrivée qu'une dizaine d'années.

M. et Madame Hunniball sont de très honnêtes personnes, et s'ils avaient pu prévoir les désagréments de ce mariage, c'est-à-dire, les formalités à remplir, ce mariage ne se serait pas fait de cette manière. M. et Madame Hunniball ont cru que la consécration du mariage par un pasteur cela suffisait, et c'est ce qu'ils ont fait. À défaut de pasteur Anglais, au mois d'Août 1861, le pasteur Luthérien de la ville de Sméla a béni ce mariage. Je n'y assistais pas, puisque depuis deux ans j'habitais Odessa.

Mais entre la naissance du premier enfant de M. Oakley j'ai reçu quelques lettres de lui. Tout naturellement lorsque Madame Oakley a mis au monde son premier né, Madame Oakley m'a écrit d'avoir l'obligeance de me présenter au Consulat Anglais pour faire inscrire la naissance de son enfant. Autant que je puis me le rappeler, ce devait être au mois d'Octobre 1862.

Donc avec une lettre de M. Oakley et un certificat constatant qu'il lui était née une fille, je me suis présenté au Consulat. M. le Consul, comme à son ordinaire, m'a reçu assez cavalièrement, en me demandant où M. et Madame Oakley s'étaient mariés.

Moi. A Sméla, répondis-je.

D. Ce mariage n'est pas valable. Un citoyen Anglais qui se marie à l'étranger doit être marié par un Consul Anglais, et de plus je vous dirai que cet enfant qui vient de naître sera considéré comme illégitime.

Moi. Mais, M. le Consul, lui dis-je, ce que vous me dites est effrayant ; car M. et Madame Hunniball, sujets Anglais, ne connaissent pas cette loi.

D. Je vous le répète, cet enfant est illégitime ; et si M. Oakley se présentait en Angleterre il recevrait une punition.

Moi. Mais alors, M. le Consul, dans ce cas très grave je vous demande un conseil. Je vais écrire à M. Oakley de m'envoyer le certificat du pasteur, et vous verrez, Monsieur, que ce mariage est accompli.

D. Le certificat ne fera rien ; mais il y a une chose faisable, que M. et Madame Oakley viennent à Odessa, je les marierai, et quelques jours après j'en registrerai l'enfant.

Je suis convaincu que M. le Consul voulait et croyait bien faire en faveur de M. et Madame Oakley pour la naissance de leur enfant, mais malheureusement nous étions dans la mauvaise saison, et il s'était passé plusieurs mois en correspondance. Et au printemps suivant M. Oakley a été tellement surchargé de travail qu'il n'a pu venir à Odessa qu'au mois d'Août 1863. Mais à ce moment Madame Oakley était sur le point de mettre encore un enfant au monde.

J'ai, Monsieur, comme témoin signé au mariage fait par M. le Consul, assisté de son employé, ceci était conséquent et valable.

J'ai signé pour la naissance du premier né, puisque j'en ai fait la déclaration, et quelques mois après j'ai déclaré encore un enfant, qui a été inscrit.

J'ai l'honneur, Monsieur, de vous certifier que tout ce qui précède est la pure vérité, et aussi, je le répète, M. Grenville-Murray voulait, tout en déshonorant, pour ainsi dire, Mademoiselle Flécher, que l'enfant ne fût pas illégitime, c'est ma ferme conviction.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) G. ROUVILLE.

No. 157.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Conservative Club, London, January 13, 1868.

I AM compelled most reluctantly to intrude on your Lordship to mention that I have received no communication from the Foreign Office respecting the Report of Mr. Wilkins, although a month has passed since Mr. Sanderson informed me that your Lordship had requested Mr. Wilkins to furnish it.

I venture to hope that your Lordship will pardon me if I presume to observe that the course pursued towards me seems to me altogether inexplicable, and I humbly ask your Lordship whether it is not most oppressive and unprecedented.

I write thus to your Lordship because I do feel very keenly that unless your Lordship will personally satisfy yourself that it is right or inevitable that an officer in Her Majesty's service should receive the treatment with which I have been visited, you will no longer suffer me to be unfairly dealt by.

Being very profoundly under the conviction that your Lordship has not been fully informed of the long continued course of proceedings which have been so injurious to my prospects as a public servant, I take the liberty of laying before your Lordship the following brief statement of facts :—

Having been previously an Attaché in the Diplomatic Service, I was appointed Consul-General at Odessa in July 1858, and I went out to assume my office in the month of September in that year. From the time I was so appointed, I had the misfortune to be without any Agent at the Foreign Office to receive my salary or attend to my interests.

When, in November 1866, I availed myself of the permission conceded to me of a month's leave of absence and returned to England, I appointed Mr. Perkins to discharge my duties in my stead.

My leave of absence was afterwards extended to the 1st of January, 1867, but a few days before that date an order was issued by the Foreign Office, and conveyed by telegram, appointing Mr. Stevens, who at that time was Vice-Consul at Nicolaieff, within the district of the Consulate-General at Odessa, and had the advantage of being represented by an Agent at the Foreign Office, to discharge the duties of Consul-General during my absence.

No intimation was given to me by the Foreign Office of this appointment, and the first information received by Mr. Perkins of his removal was a despatch from Mr. Stevens, delivered to him on the day of Mr. Stevens' arrival at Odessa to assume the duties of Acting Consul-General.

This was followed by the appointment, as far back as the end of April in last year, of Mr. Wilkins to make inquiries into some allegations of irregularity in the conduct of official business ; and the result of those inquiries still remains unreported.

Meantime, I have been now suspended nine months from my office, and two-thirds of my salary have been withheld from me and the greater part transferred to Mr. Stevens.

I have been thus practically fined hundreds of pounds without any explained cause. Every effort and entreaty I have made either personally or through my family and friends to obtain justice has been unavailing, and I hope your Lordship will not consider that I have been either impatient or insubordinate under a trial which has nearly ruined me, in thus expressing my sense of wrong.

I trust that nothing which I have written will appear to your Lordship to be inconsistent with my unabated confidence that your Lordship will see justice done to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 158.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1868.

I HAVE received your letter of the 13th instant, inquiring whether "the course pursued towards you is not most oppressive and unprecedented," and asserting your "conviction that I have not been fully informed of the long-continued course of proceedings

which," according to your own account, "have been so injurious to your prospects as a public servant."

I have to state to you, in reply, that you are mistaken in that conviction. The charges brought against you of alleged misconduct in your office of Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa were duly and successively laid before me, and I felt it my duty to cause an investigation of them to be made on the spot. Full notice was given to you that such an inquiry would be thus made, and you were invited to be present at it. You did not, however, avail yourself of that invitation; the inquiry, therefore, has necessarily been made in your absence, and I have been cognizant with all matters therewith connected.

The result of the inquiry, together with all the papers relating to it, has been submitted by me to the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown, and I expect shortly to have to address you thereon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 159.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

London, January 22, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 18th instant, stating that the charges brought against me of alleged misconduct in my office of Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa were duly and successively laid before your Lordship, and that you felt it your duty to cause an investigation of them to be made on the spot, and also stating that full notice was given to me that such an inquiry would be thus made, and that I was invited to be present at it, and that as I did not avail myself of that invitation, the inquiry had necessarily been made in my absence.

I beg respectfully to remind your Lordship that the only "invitation" I received was in a despatch from Mr. James Murray, dated April 5th,* and thus expressed:—

"You are of course at liberty to be present at such examination, but it will be conducted whether you are at Odessa or not."

At the same time I was forbidden to resume my duties as Consul-General, so that I must have placed myself in a subordinate position to the officer acting in my place during my suspension, who was in possession of my papers, and who was my accuser.

In my despatch dated 8th April, 1867,† after giving the fullest explanations upon all the cases under inquiry, I had the honour to observe "that although I should be glad to have my conduct investigated by any impartial gentleman competent to such an investigation, I would respectfully submit that before such an investigation took place I ought to be informed in what respect my explanations in any of the said cases were considered unsatisfactory, and I also further submitted that the investigation could not be conducted with advantage anywhere but in London, the documents and witnesses being all here."

I received no answer to my letter of the 8th April, but, on the 26th April,‡ Mr. James Murray informed me that Mr. John Edward Wilkins had been selected to make inquiry at Odessa, and on the 30th April§ I expressed to your Lordship my belief "that the gentleman named was appointed Consul at Chicago in 1855; and I was not aware that he had seen any other service; and with all due respect to Mr. Wilkins I remarked that he was junior to me both in length of service and official rank; that he had never been employed in Russia, or had any experience there; and I most earnestly and respectfully protested against an investigation so conducted; and I again appealed to your Lordship that if any inquiry into my conduct was to be instituted it might be conducted in London, where all the witnesses and documents by which it could be properly explained were to be found, and by persons accustomed to the investigation of facts with judicial solemnity and familiar with the rules of evidence."

I beg to assure your Lordship that I could not afford to go to Odessa at my own expense, or to convey thither, also at my own expense, the witnesses capable of affording explanations on my behalf, and I therefore was compelled to leave the investigation to be conducted in my absence, feeling certain that an opportunity would be afforded me of giving my explanation of any facts or statements which might be collected at Odessa injurious to me until explained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 160.

Mr. James Murray to the Registrar-General.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 1, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter to Mr. Wilkins of 29th November, 1867,* on the alleged irregularities of Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, in regard to marriages of British subjects, which letter has been laid by Mr. Wilkins before Lord Stanley, I am directed by his Lordship to request that you will be so good as to point out in detail the exact nature of all the irregularities which you have detected in the Marriage Register or otherwise, as such detail is deemed important by Lord Stanley as affecting an investigation which is now being made into Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in his official capacity.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 161.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord,

London, February 4, 1868.

IN the despatch which I had the honour to receive on the 18th ultimo, your Lordship informed me that the result of the inquiry made by Mr. Wilkins at Odessa, together with all the papers relating to it, had been submitted by your Lordship to the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown, and that your Lordship expected to have shortly to address me thereon.

As more than a fortnight has since elapsed, I presume that their opinion has been now received. I have, however, the honour to remind your Lordship that I have heard nothing further on the subject, and to entreat your Lordship's consideration of the great injury and hardship inflicted on me by these delays.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 162.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 4, 1868.

WITH reference to your letters of the 22nd ultimo and 4th instant, I transmit to you, for any explanations that you may wish to make thereon, a copy of Mr. Wilkins' Report† upon the matters which I sent him to Odessa to inquire into, and which formed the subject of communications which I made to you in letters from this Department, dated as follows:—21st February; 2nd March (two of this date); 16th March; 22nd March; 30th March; 5th April; 16th April; 25th April; 26th April (two of this date), 1867.

The documents referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report will be open for your inspection at this office, if you should desire to see them.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 163.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 7.)

My Lord,

London, February 7, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, transmitting copy of Mr. Wilkins' Report, and informing me that the documents referred

* Inclosure 37A in No. 156.

† No. 156.

to therein would be open for my inspection should I desire to see them. I have, therefore, the honour to request permission to do so on Monday next at any hour your Lordship may be pleased to appoint, accompanied by my solicitors, Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co., of Lincoln's Inn.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 164.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 7, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that his Lordship accedes to your request for permission to inspect on Monday next at this office the documents forming inclosures in Mr. Wilkins' Report, and to bring with you your solicitors, Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co.

The documents will be ready for you at 12 o'clock on that day.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY

No. 165.

The Registrar-General to Mr. James Murray.—(Received February 10.)

Sir,

*General Register Office, Somerset House,
February 7, 1868.*

IN obedience to the commands of Lord Stanley, conveyed to me in your letter of the 1st instant, I proceed to comment on the irregularities of Mr. E. C. G. Murray, Consul-General at Odessa, with respect to registration of births, deaths, and marriages, and to state in greater detail than I did in my letter to Mr. Wilkins of 29th November, 1867, the irregularities I then alluded to as detected by me on examining four registers of marriages numbered respectively 17, 18, 19, 20.

An original register has been laid before me, entitled "Register of Births, Marriages, and Deaths," containing also original notices of marriages, with certificate of Consul-General appended.

I observe that entries of marriages solemnized have not been made in regular order from the beginning to the end of the book, as is required by the 11th section of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

I also observe that sixteen leaves of the original register of marriages, Form F, have been mutilated. It may be held that for allowing this register to be thus injured whilst in his keeping, Mr. E. C. G. Murray might be liable to forfeit a sum not exceeding 50*l.* under the 42nd section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 86.

With respect to the marriage of R. F. Oakley and E. Fletcher, No. 17, solemnized on 23rd August, 1863, by banns, it is evident that the notice was given on 17th August, 1863, and the certificate granted on the same day, in contravention of the 3rd and 9th sections of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68. For this offence the Consul-General might have been prosecuted for felony under the 40th section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85; and the marriage might have been held to be null and void under the 42nd section of the last named statute.

With respect to the marriage of C. Dinsmore and E. Sasnosky, No. 18, solemnized on 17th January, 1864, notice appears to have been given on 7th January, 1864, and certificate dated on the same day, but not signed. This marriage was solemnized before the expiration of twenty-one days, and without certificate duly issued. The Consul-General, therefore, might have been prosecuted for felony under the 39th section of the Act 6 and 7 Will. IV. cap. 85, and the marriage might have been held to be null and void under the 42nd section of the last-named statute.

With respect to the marriage of W. Laney and S. Cramer, No. 19, solemnized on 14th September, 1865, in the notice dated 22nd August, 1865, the essential particulars as to dwelling-place and length of residence are left blank, and the license appears to have been granted on the same day. The Consul-General, therefore, might have been prosecuted for felony under the 40th section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85. This marriage is

recorded as celebrated according to the rites of the Churches of England and Scotland, and there is no signature of Consul-General or of any person described as duly authorized to act for him, as is required in the 9th section of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

With respect to the marriage of G. Goddard and M. Vasilivia, No. 20, solemnized on 18th October, 1865, the notice is not signed by either party, and is dated ^{27th September} 9th October, 1865. The certificate is not signed by the Consul-General, but is dated the 9th October. The notice, therefore, is irregular, and the Consul-General might have been prosecuted for felony under 39th and 40th section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, and the marriage might be held to be null and void under the 42nd section of that statute.

I have looked at the register book of births, and I observe in No. 13 the birth of Jane Sarah Oakley, recorded as having occurred at Steblow on the 24th August, 1863, whereas the father and mother were registered as having been married at Odessa on the 23rd August, 1863, and I am told that Steblow is far distant from Odessa.

That Miss E. Fletcher on the day following her marriage with R. F. Oakley should produce a child is quite intelligible, and, I fear, by no means unprecedented; but that this child should have been born the next day at such a distance from the place of marriage is strange; but, what is still stranger is that at, No. 15 in the register book of births, the same mother, Elizabeth Oakley, is recorded, forty-seven days after the birth of Jane Sarah at Steblow, to have produced at Kieff on the 10th October, 1863, another boy, who was named Richard Thomas Oakley.

In this office upwards of 18,000,000 births are recorded as having occurred in England and Wales during the last thirty years; but in all that immense number I do not believe that a similar occurrence as to the birth of twins has been registered, forty-seven days elapsing between the birth of Mrs. Elizabeth Oakley's first twin girl, Jane Sarah, and her little twin brother, Richard Thomas.

I meditate bringing this extraordinary occurrence under the notice of the Obstetrical Society which has been lately established in London, and, I am sure, it will attract the attention of the many celebrated accoucheurs of the metropolis who compose that Obstetrical Association.

With respect to irregularities committed by the Consul-General at Odessa in the transmission of certified copies to this Department, I find that improper delay occurs; that they are not on the proper Forms; that wrong dates are evidently inserted; that they are not certified; and the Consular seal is not attached, as is required by the 12th section of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

This causes great trouble to this Office; but that is nothing compared to the inconvenience felt by the public, who, in consequence of these irregularities, cannot be furnished by me with copies under the 38th section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 86, which certified copies stamped with the seal of this Office would be received in Courts of Law, in accordance with that section, as evidence of the marriage, without further or other proof of such entry.

The duties connected with registration, which should be performed by the Consul-General at Odessa, are of a very simple nature, easily understood, easily executed.

I find that they have been performed in a manner so negligent that a special Act of Parliament has been necessary, rendering valid marriages which, owing to the Consul-General's erroneous conduct, would have been null, and the children of such unsuspecting, innocent, ill-used parents would otherwise have been illegitimate.

This public officer is not asked to perform gratuitously these registration duties, so important to British subjects residing abroad. In addition to his salary, I believe that there are special fees received for such duties.

The time, I suppose, has gone by when, as an example to other Consuls, he might have been prosecuted, convicted, and sentenced to penal servitude; but I consider his conduct highly censurable.

Thus, I trust that in my letter to Mr. Wilkins of the 29th of November, 1867, combined with this Report, I have without favour or affection stated, in detail, sufficient to satisfy Lord Stanley of the very grave irregularities committed by the Consul-General at Odessa in the matter of registration of births, deaths, and marriages.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE GRAHAM.

No. 166.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1868.

BY the direction of Lord Stanley, the Registrar-General has been directed to report on the state of the Register of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, recently kept by you as Consul-General at Odessa; and I am desired by his Lordship to call your attention to the following irregularities and omissions which have been pointed out to his Lordship by that officer.

The entries of marriages have not been made in regular order from the beginning to the end of the book, as required by the Foreign Marriage Act.

The Register, which ought to have been carefully kept, appears to be in a mutilated condition.

It appears that in the case of the marriage of R. F. Oakley and E. Fletcher, No. 17, solemnized the 23rd of August, 1863, by banns, the notice was given on the 17th of August, and the certificate granted on the same day—in contravention of the provisions of the Foreign Marriage Act,

In the case of the marriage of J. Dismore and E. Sosnosky, No. 18, solemnized on the 17th of January, 1864, notice appears to have been given on the 7th of January, 1864, and a certificate dated on the same day, but not signed. The marriage appears to have been solemnized before the expiration of twenty-one days, and without certificate being duly issued.

With respect to the marriage of W. Laney and S. Cramer, No. 19, solemnized on the 14th of September, 1865, the notice is dated the 22nd of August, 1865, and in it the essential particulars as to dwelling-place and length of residence are left blank; and the license appears to have been granted on the same day. This marriage is recorded as celebrated according to the rites of the Churches of England and Scotland. There is no signature of Consul-General, or of any person described as duly authorized to act for him, appended to this entry.

With respect to the marriage of G. Goddard and M. Vasilivia, No. 20, solemnized on the 18th of October, the notice is not signed by either party, and is dated the ^{27th of September,} 9th of October, 1865. The certificate is not signed by the Consul-General, but is dated the 9th of October, 1865.

The Registrar-General points out that in the Register of Births, No. 13, the birth of Jane Sarah Oakley is recorded as having occurred at Steblow, on the 24th of August, 1863, whereas the father and mother are registered as having been married at Odessa the day before—Steblow being, as it is understood, far distant from Odessa. At No. 15 in the book, the same mother is recorded (forty-seven days after the birth of Jane Sarah Oakley at Steblow) to have given birth to a boy, Richard Thomas Oakley, at Kieff, on the 10th of October, 1863.

With respect to your conduct in transmitting certified copies of registers to the Registrar-General's Department, it is stated by the Registrar-General that he has had to notice improper delays in such transmission; that the copies have not been on proper forms; that in some cases it appears that wrong dates have been inserted, and that there have been irregularities in certifying such copies and attaching the Consular seal.

The irregularities in your conduct with reference to your duties in and in connection with the solemnization of marriages, have led to serious inconvenience and have caused doubts to be thrown on the validity of marriages, which have rendered it necessary to pass a special Act of Parliament; and I am directed to ask for any explanation you may desire to furnish as to these charges of improper conduct and neglect in the discharge of the duties of your office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 167.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 29.)

My Lord,

London, February 29, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Mr. James Murray's despatch of yesterday's date, and I find it refers to affairs alluded to in the Report of Mr. Wilkins, with reference to which I shall have the honour shortly to address your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 168.

Messrs. Cookson, Wainwright and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 5.)

My Lord,

6, Lincoln's Inn, March 4, 1868.

MR. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, Consul-General at Odessa, has placed in our hands a copy of the Report dated the 18th December last, which Mr. Wilkins, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions of the 29th of April last, has made to your Lordship in reference to the affairs of the Consulate.

We abstain, for the present, from making any observations on the Report, but on behalf of Mr. Grenville-Murray, we have to request that your Lordship will have the goodness to direct that copies may be furnished to us, on his behalf, of the several documents specified in the inclosed list (most of which are referred to in the Report of Mr. Wilkins); and that Mr. Grenville-Murray and we, on his behalf, may have the opportunity of inspecting all papers, deeds, documents, letters, and accounts, belonging to Mr. Grenville-Murray, which are now at Odessa or elsewhere under the control of the Foreign Office, relating to the estate of the late Mr. Simon Tagliaferro and his family, and particularly relating to the property at Berdiansk which belonged to Mr. Tagliaferro.

We have, &c.

(Signed) COOKSON, WAINWRIGHT, AND Co.

Inclosure in No. 168.

List of Documents of which Copies are desired by Messrs. Cookson, Wainwright, and Co.

1. INSTRUCTIONS issued by the Foreign Office to Mr. Wilkins, dated April 29, 1867.
2. Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatches and other papers submitted to Mr. Wilkins previous to his departure from England.
3. Despatches received by the Foreign Office from Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins, subsequent to Mr. Grenville-Murray's departure from Odessa.
4. Letters of Mr. Stevens, whilst Acting Consul-General, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, or to any officer in the Foreign Office, concerning Mr. Grenville-Murray.
5. Letters of complaint by Lloyd's against Mr. Stevens, in reference to his mode of conducting that part of the Consulate business in which they were interested.
6. Opinions referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report as having been given by the Law Officers of the Crown, declaring Mr. Grenville-Murray's answers and explanations unsatisfactory, with the cases on which the opinions were given.
7. Evidence placed before Lord Stanley reflecting seriously on Mr. Grenville-Murray's character.
8. "Accompanying proofs," forwarded by Mr. Wilkins with his Report.
9. Any paper or document which led Mr. Stevens to expect to receive an application for British protection from Messrs. Vucina.
10. Despatch from Mr. Stevens to Lord Stanley of the 31st January, 1867.
11. Evidence that Mr. Grenville-Murray was on friendly terms with Messrs. Vucina.
12. Proofs that the Vucina family are all Ionian subjects.
13. Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch No. 50, dated September 19th, 1863.

14. Despatch or other communications from the Foreign Office, addressed to Mr. Jean G. Voutzina, on the 13th October, 1863.
15. Further explanations of Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley, referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report.
16. Instructions to subordinates as to the general issue of passports drawn up by Mr. Grenville-Murray for office use.
17. Evidence of date of delivery of letter dated 27th October, 1866, alleged to have been addressed to Mr. Grenville-Murray by Messrs. Vucina.
18. Letter and indorsement.
19. Regulations respecting passports issued by the Foreign Office to Mr. Grenville-Murray.
20. Despatch of Mr. Grenville-Murray of 30th September, 1863.
21. Despatch from Foreign Office No. 10 of 1867.
22. Mr. Stevens' despatches to the Foreign Office, 9, 17, and 31 of 1867, and No. 18 in sundry official correspondence to Messrs. Vucina, also remarks on Mr. Murray's Register of Passports in red ink, made by Mr. Stevens across entries Nos. 268 and 269 of 1st November, 1866.
23. Despatches from Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Foreign Office respecting the office of Vice-Consul at Odessa, and replies of the Foreign Office thereto.
24. Mr. Stevens' despatch No. 22, dated February 26th, 1867.
25. Letter from Messrs. Tubino to the Consul-General of Odessa, dated ^{23rd January} 5th February, 1867.
26. Paper in the Russian language No. 7, in Mr. Wilkins' report.
27. Telegram from Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Carburì, dated ^{30th September} 12th October, 1866.
28. Power of Attorney, dated ^{10th} 22nd October, 1866, from Mrs. Tagliaferro to Mr. Carburì.
29. Letter from Mr. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich, ^{8th} 20th October, 1866.
30. A letter which Mr. Wilkins assumes to have been addressed by Messrs. Raffalovich to Mr. Grenville-Murray, on or about the ^{8th} 20th October, 1866.
31. Correspondence between Messrs. Raffalovich and Mr. Grenville-Murray.
32. Correspondence which passed between Messrs. Raffalovich and Mr. Stevens, in reference to Mr. Grenville-Murray's private account with Messrs. Raffalovich, and the name of the member of the firm by whom the letters to Mr. Stevens were written.
33. Certificate alleged to have been given by Mr. Serebrini's clerk, attested by his employer.
34. Correspondence between Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Stevens with Mr. Serebrini, by means of which his clerk's evidence was obtained.
35. Inclosure No. 20, alleged to bear the same watermark as the papers said to have been issued from the Consulate in 1864.
36. Letter alleged to have been sent to Messrs. Tubino on the ^{23rd October} 8rd November, 1866.
37. Application made to Messrs. Raffalovich for the papers, which Mr. Wilkins states in his Report, they had informed Messrs. Tubino they were bound to return to Mr. Grenville-Murray.
38. Letter of Messrs. Tubino to Consul-General of Odessa of ^{25th January} 6th February, 1867.
39. Letter of Mr. Grenville-Murray to Messrs. Raffalovich, dated 18th February, 1867.
40. Letter of Mrs. Tagliaferro to Messrs. Tubino, of same date.
41. Authority alleged by Mr. Stevens to have been received by him some weeks previous to his arrival at Odessa, to interfere with the affairs of the Tagliaferro family, with the name of the person who, he stated, had agreed to pay his expenses in doing so.
42. The original translation of all foreign documents supplied to Mr. Wilkins with the names of the translators, including copy and translation of a telegram alleged to have been sent by Mr. Tagliaferro to Messrs. Tubino, on the 22nd February, 1867.
43. Telegram from Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalovich, dated 22nd February, 1867.
44. Correspondence No. 30.
45. Despatch No. 31.
46. Letter No. 32, with copy of postmarks or evidence of its delivery.
47. Letter No. 33.
48. Request alleged to have been made to Messrs. Tubino to do away with certain documents with the name of the partner in the firm of Tubino who furnished the evidence to Mr. Wilkins, and of the person by whom interrogatories were put to him, and of the interpreters and translators who acted between him and Mr. Wilkins, with copies of the postmarks on the letters alleged to have been sent, and received by Messrs. Tubino.
49. The whole of letter No. 34.

50. Correspondence between Mr. Wilkins and Her Majesty's authorities at Malta, with name of the person who supplied information from Malta, and name of the translator of the Maltese documents.
51. Case and legal opinions furnished to Mr. Wilkins in Russia, and elsewhere, with the names of the legal gentlemen who gave them.
52. Petition of Madame Tagliaferro.
53. Application by Ullo to Mr. Stevens.
54. Marriage certificate in possession of Mr. Ullo.
55. Certificates returned to the Registrar-General with Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatches, and explanations thereon, transmitted under flying seal or open envelope for the approval of the Foreign Office.
56. Complaints made by the Registrar-General.
57. Any complaint, reprimand, or observation made by the Foreign Office as to the alleged irregularity of any certificate or certificates so transmitted by Mr. Grenville-Murray.
58. Official receipts (if any) sent to the Registrar-General for any marriage register books supplied by him to Mr. Grenville-Murray, pursuant to 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.
59. Instructions to the Registrar-General, and evidence laid before him upon which he based his opinion.
60. Letter from the Foreign Office of the 7th November, 1849.
61. Special Report made by Mr. Wilkins upon the marriage witnessed by M. Horowitz, with the evidence obtained by Mr. Wilkins on the same subject.
62. Application alleged to have been made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Robertson for an amended certificate of the registry of the birth of a child, with copy of said certificate.
63. Despatches from Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Foreign Office, and any despatches from the Foreign Office to Mr. Grenville-Murray respecting the Oakley case.
64. Correspondence between Messrs. Wilkins and Stevens and Mr. Rouville, with name of interpreter who acted between them.
65. Correspondence between Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Oakley.
66. Despatch from Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Russell as to the illegitimate child, and Lord Russell's despatch in reply.
67. Certificate of birth of female child of Oakley, registered August 1863.
68. Certificate of birth of a male child, registered 9th November, 1863, as born 10th October, 1863.
69. Proof of the date of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley's arrival at Odessa.
70. Regulations of the ports of Cork, Falmouth, Sunderland, Shields, Trieste, Constantinople, and Odessa, as to the necessity of Consular papers for vessels homeward bound.
71. Instructions furnished by the Foreign Office to Mr. Wilkins, December 18, 1867.
72. Despatches from Mr. Grenville-Murray and other Consular authorities as to the decrease of fees.
73. Nominal list of fees levied by Mr. Stevens.

No. 169.

Messrs. Cookson, Wainwright, and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

6, Lincoln's Inn, March 27, 1868.

NOT having received any reply to the letter we had the honour to address to your Lordship on the 4th instant, you will not, we hope, consider us exigent if we ask how soon we may be allowed to receive the copies of documents with which we requested we might be furnished as the Solicitors of Mr. Grenville-Murray.

We have, &c.

(Signed) COOKSON, WAINWRIGHT, AND Co.

No. 170.

Mr. James Murray to Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, April 3, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 4th and 27th ultimo, asking, on behalf of Mr. Grenville-Murray, to be supplied with copies of various documents relating to the inquiry which has lately been made into his conduct at Odessa.

His Lordship desires me to state to you, in reply, that Mr. Wilkins' report is founded, as is to be gathered from the Report itself, not only on documentary evidence, but upon statements made to him in the course of the investigation made by Lord Stanley's directions, which investigation Mr. Grenville-Murray declined to attend.

Lord Stanley, however, desires that every facility should be afforded to Mr. Grenville-Murray and his advisers to inspect every document in the control of this Office, referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report and upon which that Report is based; and upon reasonable notice being given such documents will be produced at the Foreign Office for inspection.

Lord Stanley is not aware that there are under the control of the Foreign Office, at Odessa or elsewhere, papers, deeds, letters, or accounts belonging to Mr. Grenville-Murray relating to the estate of the late Mr. Simon Tagliaferro and his family; but his Lordship will give instructions that any papers in the custody or under the control of the Foreign Office, in Odessa or elsewhere, relating to such estate, and which are necessary to enable Mr. Grenville-Murray to answer or explain the charges made against him, shall on application be produced. His Lordship cannot consent that private reports made to the Foreign Office, cases submitted to the Law Officers and their opinions, instructions given to Mr. Wilkins, and other documents of a like description mentioned in your list, and assumed, in some cases erroneously, to be in existence, and which in no way tend to prove or rebut any charge made against Mr. Grenville-Murray, shall be produced; and while Lord Stanley finds it impossible to answer your application more specifically than he has done, in stating what existing documents included in the list can properly be produced, his Lordship, subject to what is above stated, will be ready to consider any application for the production of any particular document that may be required to insure Mr. Grenville-Murray every opportunity of answering the charges made against him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 171.

Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

6, Lincoln's Inn, April 17, 1868.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. James Murray's letter of the 3rd instant, in answer to our letter of the 4th of March, in which we requested that your Lordship would have the goodness to direct that copies might be furnished to us on behalf of Mr. Grenville-Murray of the several documents specified in a list which we inclosed, most of which we mentioned were referred to in the Report of Mr. Wilkins.

Mr. James Murray, in his letter of the 3rd instant, informs us that your Lordship desires that every facility should be afforded to Mr. Grenville-Murray and his advisers to inspect every document in the control of the Foreign Office referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report, and upon which that Report is based, and that upon reasonable notice being given, such documents will be produced at the Foreign Office for inspection.

We venture to ask your Lordship whether it is intended to refuse inspection of all documents except such as have been selected by Mr. Wilkins, and are referred to in his Report, and upon which his Report is based, and also to refuse copies of documents.

Mr. James Murray further informs us that your Lordship cannot consent that private reports made to the Foreign Office, cases submitted to the Law Officers and their opinions, instructions given to Mr. Wilkins, and documents of a like description, mentioned in our list, should be produced.

On this point we beg to remind your Lordship that several of the documents and papers mentioned by Mr. James Murray are referred to in the Report of Mr. Wilkins, and must therefore have been considered by him as in some way bearing on the charges made against Mr. Grenville-Murray.

In the list which accompanied our letter to your Lordship of the 4th of March, we have specified the documents of which we desired to have copies and an inspection, and we are not able more specifically to state our wants. We would rather ask that your Lordship will have the goodness to direct that we should be informed which of the documents in our list may be produced, and which will not, with the ground of refusal.

This may be most conveniently and expeditiously done by means of a half-margin copy of our list, with the answers written opposite, and we beg to inclose a half-margin copy of our list accordingly.

We assure your Lordship that we have no desire to give any unnecessary trouble, but we beg to remind you that Mr. Grenville-Murray has no means of access to any of the papers or documents which have accumulated at Odessa during the period embraced in the Report of Mr. Wilkins, except through your Lordship; and we feel that we cannot satisfactorily discharge our duty to him under the great disadvantage of not seeing documents which, in our opinion, may throw valuable light on the proceedings of Mr. Wilkins.

We have, &c.

(Signed) COOKSON, WAINEWRIGHT, AND Co.

No. 172.

Mr. James Murray to Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 1, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you, in reply to your letter of the 17th instant, that his Lordship has this day addressed a letter to Mr. Grenville-Murray, apprizing him that all further communications regarding his case must henceforth take place directly between him and the Foreign Office; and that Lord Stanley cannot enter into further correspondence with Mr. Grenville-Murray's Solicitors upon the subject of the charges brought against him of official irregularities and breaches of duty, the nature of which has been brought pointedly to the attention of Mr. Grenville-Murray, and upon which Lord Stanley now awaits his answer.

Under these circumstances, I am to refer you to the letter thus addressed by his Lordship to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

No. 173.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1868.

WITH reference to a letter dated the 17th ultimo, which I have received from Messrs. Cookson, Wainewright, and Co., acting as your Solicitors, I have to state to you that any further communications which you may have to make to this Department regarding the charges brought against you of official irregularities and breaches of duty, must be addressed directly by yourself to this office.

In acquainting you with this decision, I have also to state to you that the time has now arrived when it is necessary that you should reply to those charges; and I must remind you that at the time when I deputed Mr. Wilkins to undertake an investigation into your proceedings, every opportunity was afforded to you to be present at the inquiry thus set on foot, and that you alone are responsible for any disadvantage which you may consider yourself to suffer, owing to your not having availed yourself of this offer.

In addition to the opportunity thus afforded to you, you are aware that permission has been granted to you to visit this Office in company with your Solicitor, for the purpose of inspecting such documents connected with the case as could properly be placed before you. Every facility has thus been afforded you to make yourself acquainted with the charges brought against you, and you have had every opportunity of placing before me such explanations or observations as you might desire to offer in the matter: and my decision in regard to it is now only suspended until I learn from you whether you desire to put forward any statement in your defence.

In now calling upon you to inform me whether you purpose to make a communication of this nature, I have to add that, whilst I am unwilling in any way to prejudice the

position in which you are placed by pressing for a final reply at a moment when you might consider yourself as still unprepared to present your defence in its most complete form, it will be difficult for me to sanction for an unlimited time the continuance of the temporary arrangements at Odessa which have been rendered necessary by the formal inquiry into your official acts. You will therefore understand that it will be necessary that any statement which you may desire to put forward should be placed before me with as little delay as may be consistent with your interests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 174.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 6.)

My Lord,

London, May 5, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant, in which your Lordship states to me, with reference to a letter, dated the 17th ultimo, which your Lordship had received from Messrs. Cookson, Wainwright, and Co., acting as my solicitors, that any further communication which I may have to make to your Lordship's Department regarding the charges brought against me must be addressed directly by myself to your Lordship's office.

In acquainting me with this decision, your Lordship also states to me that the time has now arrived when it is necessary that I should reply to those charges; and must remind me that, at the time when your Lordship deputed Mr. Wilkins to undertake an investigation into my proceedings, every opportunity was afforded me to be present at the inquiry thus set on foot, and that I alone am responsible for any disadvantages which I may consider myself to suffer, owing to my not having availed myself of the offer.

In addition to the opportunity thus afforded me, your Lordship observes that I am aware that permission has been granted to me to visit the Foreign Office, in company with my solicitor, for the purpose of inspecting such documents connected with the case as could properly be placed before me.

Every facility, your Lordship adds, has thus been afforded me to make myself acquainted with the charges brought against me, and I am instructed that I have had every opportunity of placing before your Lordship such explanations or observations as I might desire to offer in the matter; and that your Lordship's decision in regard to it is now only suspended until your Lordship learns from me whether I desire to put forward any statement in my defence.

In now calling upon me to inform your Lordship whether I purpose to make a communication of this nature, your Lordship informs me that, whilst you are unwilling in any way to prejudice the position in which I am placed by pressing for a final reply, at a moment when I might consider myself as still unprepared to present my defence in its most complete form, it will be difficult for your Lordship to sanction, for an unlimited time, the continuance of the temporary arrangements at Odessa which have been rendered necessary by the formal inquiry into my official acts.

I am, therefore, to understand that it will be necessary that any statement which I may desire to put forward should be placed before your Lordship with as little delay as may be consistent with my interests.

When my solicitors attended with me at the Foreign Office to inspect documents, English translations of documents in the Russian and Italian languages were produced, and I expressed a desire to see the original documents.* I was the more anxious to see

* *Observations by Mr. Wilkins, to whom this was communicated.*

Russian.—All original documents of which translations were produced were shown to Mr. Grenville-Murray and to his solicitors, as follows:—

1. Original and copies of document in Russian, the original signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and of which translation is given in body of Report. (Inclosures 7 and 19, and an Inclosure in No. 6.)

2. Inclosure 11.—Original copy of power of attorney from Madame Tagliaferro to Mr. Carhuri.

3. Inclosure 36.—Originals produced and shown to Mr. Grenville-Murray. These translations were not made by Mr. Stevens.

N.B.—(35.) The extracts from the Civil Code were prepared by a Mr. Horowitz, at my request (not Lloyd's Agent).

Italian.—The translations are:—

1. Of original documents

them because I had reason to believe that the translations had been made by Mr. Stevens. They were not produced; but it was suggested that I should make a written application for an inspection of all such documents as I desired to see.

My solicitors thereupon, on the 4th of March last, wrote to your Lordship with a list of all the documents they desired to see, and requested that they might be produced, and that copies of them might be furnished.

After an interval of more than four weeks, namely, on the 3rd of April, Mr. James Murray wrote to my solicitors in answer to their application, that Mr. Wilkins' Report was founded not only on documentary evidence, but upon statements made to him in the course of the investigation.

Mr. James Murray also stated your Lordship's desire that every facility should be afforded to me and my solicitors to inspect every document in the control of the office referred to in Mr. Wilkins' Report, and upon which the Report is based.

Mr. James Murray further stated that, while your Lordship found it impossible to answer the application of my solicitors more specifically than you had done in stating what existing documents included in their list could properly be produced, your Lordship would be ready to consider any application for the production of any particular document that might be required to insure me every opportunity of answering the charges made against me.

My solicitors, on the 17th of April, ventured to ask your Lordship whether it was intended to refuse inspection of all documents except such as had been selected by Mr. Wilkins, and are referred to in his report, and upon which his report is based, and also to refuse copies.

My solicitors further stated that in their list they had specified the documents of which they desired to have copies and an inspection, and that they were not able more specifically to state their wants; and they asked that your Lordship would have the goodness to direct that they might be informed which of the documents in their list might be produced, and which would not, with the grounds of refusal.

My solicitors thought that this might be most conveniently and expeditiously done by means of a half-margin copy of their list with the answers written opposite, and they inclosed to your Lordship a half-margin copy of their list accordingly.

I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that my solicitors, after reading your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant, have intimated to me that they cannot undertake to conduct my defence without knowing what original documents they may inspect, or without having copies of such of them as they may deem of importance.

From your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant, I find that I have no alternative but to answer the charges brought against me in the Report of Mr. Wilkins to your Lordship with the aid of such materials only as I happen to possess here in London.

Having read very carefully the Report of Mr. Wilkins, I am confirmed in my opinion that if I had been present at Odessa during the time he was making inquiries into my conduct, I should have had no opportunity of defending myself.

The inquiries appear to have been made, as I anticipated they would be, after the manner of an agent employed to collect evidence rather than by a judicial functionary holding a Court with judicial solemnity, where the accuser and the accused might be represented before him, and where the evidence on both sides might be given under proper sanctions and might be satisfactorily sifted.

On the 5th of April, 1867, Mr. James Murray informed me that your Lordship had decided that an investigation should be made at Odessa into all the cases which had formed the subject of recent correspondence with me, and that a gentleman of experience competent for such a task would shortly be sent from England for that purpose; and that I was "of course at liberty to be present at such examination, but that it would be conducted whether I was at Odessa or not."

In my answer of the 8th of April, 1867, to the whole of which I request your Lordship's attention, after replying seriatim to each charge against me, I observed that although I should be glad to have my conduct investigated by any impartial gentleman competent to such an investigation, I submitted that before such an investigation took place I ought to be informed in what respect my explanations were considered unsatis-

2. Of copies of letters in Italian (not made by Mr. Stevens, but by M. Gassin, the Interpreter to the Russian Navigation Company).

The first are Inclosures 10, 26, 28, 32, 33, and original of telegram referred to in Inclosure 27. All the original documents were shown to Mr. Grenville-Murray, as all the Maltese documents, Nos. 16 and 17, without translations.

The second class include Inclosures 12, 22, 23, 24, and 27.

factory; and I further submitted that the investigation could not be conducted with advantage anywhere but in London, and stated my reasons.

On the 26th of April, 1867, Mr. James Murray informed me that Mr. John Edward Wilkins had been selected to make inquiry on the spot at Odessa into all the proceedings which had formed the subject of correspondence, and that he would start in a few days.

On the 30th of April, 1867, I mentioned to your Lordship that Mr. Wilkins had never been in Russia, or had any experience there, and that I must earnestly and respectfully protest against an investigation so conducted; and I appealed to your Lordship that if any inquiry into my conduct was to be instituted it might be conducted in London, and by persons accustomed to the investigation of facts with judicial solemnity, and familiar with the rules of evidence.

Mr. Wilkins I am informed remained at Odessa until October 1867. His report was not made till more than two months afterwards, namely, on the 18th of December, 1867, and a copy of it was not sent to me until seven weeks afterwards.

I am further informed that Mr. Wilkins was wholly ignorant of the Russian and French languages, and could not, therefore, conduct an investigation in which a knowledge of both these languages was indispensable.

I am further informed that Mr. Stevens, my accuser and *locum tenens*, acted as the interpreter of Mr. Wilkins; and that they resided in the same house.

When I left Odessa on leave of absence, I appointed Mr. Perkins my deputy during my absence, but not long after he was removed to make way for Mr. Stevens, who immediately on his arrival at Odessa, required all documents at the Consulate to be instantly sent to him at his hotel.

Mr. Stevens at this time was Vice-Consul at Nicolaieff, and previously had been Vice-Consul at Kherson.

Whilst at Kherson, Mr. Stevens on several occasions received pecuniary assistance from me in the shape of loans on urgent applications, which loans have never been repaid; and I have authentic information of his having stated at Odessa on several occasions that I am to be removed, and that he is to be appointed in my place.

I am also informed that many persons have been induced, by misrepresentations, to sign memorials praying for my removal, and for his appointment.

It has appeared to me a convenient mode of dealing with the Report of Mr. Wilkins to make my observations upon it side by side with the Report, and this course I have adopted.

If after reading my observations on Mr. Wilkins' Report, your Lordship's decision should be that a judicial investigation of the charges against me is necessary, I have most earnestly to entreat that it may be before a person accustomed to the investigation of facts with judicial solemnity, and familiar with the rules of evidence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY

Inclosure in No. 174.

*Report of Mr. Wilkins to Lord Stanley, with Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.**

My Lord,

London, December 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that in obedience to your Lordship's instructions of the 29th April last, I have been to Odessa, and have, as well as my ability and circumstances permitted, made the inquiry your Lordship deemed it necessary to institute into certain proceedings at the British Consulate there.

In accordance with your Lordship's orders, all papers relating to these proceedings, in so far as they had been reported, were placed before me, from which I learnt that Mr. Grenville-Murray was appointed Consul-General at Odessa in July 1858, that he entered on his duties in September 1858, and remained there, with the exception of three months in 1861, until November 1866, when he left Odessa on leave of absence, and that during the intervening period various complaints affecting his official conduct had been made ⁽¹⁾.

Your Lordship informed me that it might not be necessary that I should enter into any matters which were brought before the Foreign Office previously to Mr. Grenville-Murray leaving Odessa in November 1866, although the knowledge of them might be useful to me in my inquiries into other matters, or in the event of anything connected with them being introduced locally to my notice.

The cases to which my special attention was directed, were those to which your Lordship's attention had particularly been called by Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens since he assumed charge of the Consulate at Odessa in December 1866 ⁽²⁾.

As I shall report on each of these cases, it is not necessary to state them in detail here.

It appears from the correspondence that Mr. Grenville-Murray's explanations, as far as he had given any, had been considered by your Lordship, after consultation with the Law Adviser of the Crown, to be unsatisfactory ⁽³⁾; and that your Lordship felt that the question had arisen whether Mr. Grenville-Murray had or had not really acted improperly, and if he had, whether such conduct was the result of mere negligence or otherwise.

On the face of the evidence ⁽⁴⁾, as placed before your Lordship, statements had been made reflecting seriously on the character of an officer holding Her Majesty's Commission; and I was informed that the interests of the public service required that no doubts should be allowed to exist as to whether such officer had acted in a manner unbecoming his position, or in violation of his duty to the Crown; but in order to clear up doubts, it would be needful that all investigations into facts and occurrences should be conducted with the utmost impartiality by me.

I beg respectfully to express a hope that, after a perusal of this Report, and the accompanying proofs, your Lordship will find that I have endeavoured to deserve the confidence reposed in me.

Question No. 1, relating to Passports.

The first case to which my attention was especially directed is a question (arising out of an application which Mr. Stevens expected to receive from certain Greek subjects, named Vucina, for protection as British subjects) as to the issue of passports by Mr. Grenville-Murray, to persons not being entitled to them ⁽⁵⁾.

This case came before your Lordship in a despatch dated 31st of January, 1867,† from Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, stating that Mr. Grenville-Murray had caused British passports to be issued to Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina, of Odessa, Ionians, who ceased to be entitled to British protection on the cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece in 1864 ⁽⁶⁾.

* See also No. 156.

† No. 60.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(1.) These alleged complaints were no doubt calculated, if they were not intended, to produce a prejudice against me at the outset; and I ought to know what they were, and to have an opportunity of answering them.

(2.) I desire to see the despatches of Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens here referred to, and to be furnished with copies. He obviously is my accuser; and I submit that I am entitled, on every principle of justice and fair-dealing, to see what he has written against them.

(3.) Mr. Wilkins entered upon his investigation under the influence of an opinion of the Law Adviser of the Crown that my explanations were unsatisfactory. Surely I am entitled to know what statement was laid before the Law Adviser, and on what grounds he considered my explanations unsatisfactory.

(4.) Am I not to see the "evidence" here referred to, reflecting seriously on my character?

(5.) I deny that I ever issued a passport to any person without the usual evidence that he was entitled to it.

(6.) I deny (to the best of my recollection) that I caused passports to be issued to these persons. If the passports are produced they will show by whom they were issued.

(6.) *Note.*—Mr. Perkins wrote to Mr. Wilkins on the 2nd September, 1867, as follows:—"It was on the eve of departure Mr. E. C. G. Murray instructed me verbally to deliver the passports to Messrs. Alexander and John Vucina."

The passports were produced to Mr Grenville-Murray and his solicitors.

Mr. Grenville-Murray was invited to explain his conduct in this matter,* and he replied† that the passports were granted “on the written declaration of two resident merchants that Messrs. Vucina were British subjects and not Ionians” (7).

Mr. Grenville-Murray's attention was thereupon called to his despatch of the 19th September, 1863‡ (8), in which he had said he had been requested to give a letter to Mr. John Vucina, who was to proceed to London for the purpose of expressing to Earl Russell the desire of himself and family to become British subjects, notwithstanding the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece.

M. Jean G. Voutzina (Vucina) had been told with reference to that despatch, on October 13, 1863,§ that none of the Messrs. Vucina could receive British protection under any circumstances whilst domiciled out of England (9).

Mr. Grenville-Murray's further explanations to your Lordship were, that the regulations observed at Her Majesty's Consulate-General for the issue of passports are the same as those established at the Foreign Office; and that, therefore, when a respectable firm of resident merchants applied for passports, making a solemn declaration that they were British subjects, their request was granted in the usual way; and that the despatch referred to did not affect the question, as the Vucinas are a numerous family, and the application might have been naturally supposed to refer to some other member, it being the custom of Greek mercantile houses in unsettled countries to have partners of different nationalities in order that their trade might not suffer by war and political events.||

Mr. Grenville-Murray further says that there was no apparent reason whatever to induce the partners in a firm so respectable as that of Messrs. Vucina to make a false declaration on the subject, and that it would have been unbecoming for him to have doubted the truth of their statement.

The letter of Messrs. Vucina applying for the passports was addressed to Mr. Grenville-Murray on the 27th October, 1866,¶ and he instructed Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins to issue the passports to Messrs. Vucina on the eve of his departure on the 1st of November (10).

I beg respectfully to inform your Lordship that I have no further statement to add to those made by Mr. Stevens directly bearing on the most important fact in this case, which is, whether Mr. Grenville-Murray, at the time he instructed Mr. Perkins to issue the passports to Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina, was aware that these were the same persons to whom British protection was refused on Mr. Grenville-Murray's own application by Earl Russell in 1863.

The statement by one of the Messrs. Vucina that they were the same persons, made verbally to Mr. Stevens before my arrival, and verbally confirmed subsequently, does not prove Mr. Grenville-Murray's knowledge of their identity.

The only direct evidence of that fact is not improbably in the possession of Mr. Grenville-Murray himself, as I gathered from inquiries in Odessa that both Mr. John and Mr. Alexander Vucina signed the address dated August 1864,** presented by the Ionian residents of Odessa on the occasion of their closing official relations with him as Her Majesty's Consul-General, on the cession of the Ionian Islands to the Crown of Greece, and inclosed in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of 10th September, 1864 (11).

In the Consulate at Odessa and in the Foreign Office is a copy of this Memorial, but the names of the signers are not given.

Instead of the signatures in detail, it is stated, in the copies I have seen in the Consulate at Odessa and the Foreign Office, as follows:—

“Here follow the signatures of the principal merchants and bankers.”

As I found it the generally accepted opinion that Messrs. Vucina were in 1864 members of one of the most prominent mercantile firms in Odessa, of which all the members were Ionians, that theirs was the only firm of that name in Odessa, and that Mr. Grenville-Murray was well-acquainted and on friendly terms with them, it is not unreasonable to suppose that they did sign the Memorial.

If this be the case, Mr. Grenville-Murray had evidence in his possession that they are Ionians under the protection of the King of Greece (12).

* No. 62.
No. 67.

† No. 63.
¶ Inclosure 1 in No. 156.

‡ No. 52.

§ No. 53.
** Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(7.) This reply of mine was given in these terms, in answer to a statement that I had issued them, because it was an invariable rule with me, from which I never, as I believe, deviated, to require the written declaration of two resident merchants.

(8.) I desire to be furnished with a copy of this despatch.*

(9.) By whom was he told? And was he told in writing? Is it alleged that I told him, or that I had any knowledge of his having been so told? If in writing, the writing should be produced.

(9.) *Note.*—By the Foreign Office on the 13th October, 1863.†

(10.) I deny (speaking from recollection) that I so instructed Mr. Perkins. Before my departure I probably gave Mr. Perkins *general* instructions to issue passports on the usual evidence being furnished.

(10.) *Note.*—See Note on No. 6.

(11.) I have the address and am prepared to produce it. It is signed by several hundred persons, and the signatures are in modern Greek.

(11.) *Note.*—The original has not been sent to Foreign Office.

(12.) I never doubted that some of the members of the large mercantile firm of Messrs. Vucina were Ionian subjects, but if any member of that firm had stated to me that he was a British subject, I should have implicitly believed him.

(12.) *Note.*—See Nos. 65 and 67.

I respectfully submit that Mr. Grenville-Murray acted at least incautiously in directing Mr. Perkins to issue the passports to the Messrs. Vucina without requiring some confirmation of Messrs. Vucina's statement.

Mr. Grenville-Murray could not have been unaware that two leading merchants, named John and Alexander Vucina, had been refused British protection, and he must have known that the letter signed by them was not written by them, but by Mr. Lyon, formerly much employed in matters connected with the Consulate, and then Secretary to a Mr. Horowitz, who is Danish Consul and Lloyd's Agent ⁽¹³⁾.

The text of the letter (Inclosure No. 1) applying for a passport, written by Mr. Lyon and signed by Messrs. Vucina, suggests that it was framed with an intention.

Messrs. Vucina are made to say that they have been "British subjects;" not that they are.

They say nothing about being Ionians.

This criticism may appear to your Lordship as too technical; but, from the sinister course pursued by Mr. Lyon in other matters which came before me, I do attach some significance to the peculiar wording of this letter, which gives to their statement a colouring of truth.

Were it not for Mr. Grenville-Murray's defence of his conduct to your Lordship it could be readily understood that on the eve of his departure for England, after a nine years' residence abroad, the order to Mr. Perkins might in haste have been issued inadvertently.

But Mr. Grenville-Murray, in his despatch of March 4, 1867,* defends his proceedings.

He says that his regulations for the issue of passports were those in force at the Foreign Office (Inclosure No. 2).

The regulations in the Foreign Office which seem applicable to the facts disclosed respecting the issue of these passports to Messrs. Vucina are the conditions stated in section 6 namely, that the applicant must either be known or recommended by some one who is known to the person granting the passport (the Secretary of State).

Mr. Grenville-Murray says that his despatch of 19th September, 1863,† "may have been naturally supposed to refer to some other member of the numerous family of Vucina."

Now, Messrs. Vucina recommended themselves, and their passports were granted on their declaration that they had been British subjects.

Therefore I respectfully submit to your Lordship—

1st. That if Mr. Grenville-Murray did not know Messrs. John and Alexander Vucina he failed to comply with his own regulations.

He should have required a confirmation of Messrs. Vucina's statements.

2ndly. That if he did know the Messrs. Vucina, it is difficult to believe that he did not also know that these gentlemen were the same persons to whom British protection had been refused in 1863, on the occasion of Mr. Grenville-Murray's application to Earl Russell on their behalf.

Mr. Grenville-Murray observes, there was no apparent reason to induce the partners in a firm so respectable as that of Mr. Vucina to make a false declaration.

Whatever may have been Messrs. Vucina's reason for doing this, Mr. Grenville-Murray scarcely acted prudently in granting, without inquiry, British passports to travel on the Continent, to members of a Greek firm well known to Southern Russia as active sympathizers with the Cretan insurgents ⁽¹⁴⁾.

I have the honour to inclose extracts from an Odessa paper, pointing to Mr. John Vucina's connection with this movement.

It should be observed that these extracts are dated three months after the passports were issued (Inclosure 3A).

No fees appear to have been levied on the issue of passports.

It was not unusual for a clerk to sign Mr. Grenville-Murray's name to passports.

Mr. Charlton's Box.

The second case to which my attention was directed by your Lordship is a question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Charlton, agent at Odessa for Messrs. Furness and Co., contractors for public works at that place, for a box of papers deposited by him for safe custody at the Consulate) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in removing from the Consulate, and making over to a person in England without

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(13.) I deny that I ever saw the letter here referred to, until it was produced to me at the Foreign Office.

(14.) I never heard of their being active sympathizers with the Cretan insurgents ; and the knowledge of this fact, if it be a fact, would certainly not have been any inducement to me to deviate from the rules of the Consulate in their favour.

the knowledge or consent of the depositor, important documents deposited with him in his official capacity ⁽¹⁵⁾.

I beg respectfully to report to your Lordship that the Mr. Charlton referred to informed me that, in the year 1862, he succeeded a former agent of Messrs. Furness and Co. (who had a contract for paving Odessa) in the management of the works there.

Before Mr. Charlton went to Odessa, Mr. Furness instructed him to confer with Mr. Consul-General Grenville-Murray in all matters connected with the Paving Company.

He therefore sent to Mr. Murray copies of letters and minutes of all important proceedings, and looked to him for advice in local matters, and as the proper person through whom communications should be held with the Russian authorities.

Mr. Charlton knew that Mr. Grenville-Murray had been introduced by a Mr. Cutbill to Messrs. Furness and Co., and believes that a correspondence passed between them; but Mr. Charlton positively asserts that he sent the papers to him on behalf of Messrs. Furness and Co., and sent a box for their safe keeping, marked "G. F. & Co."

In 1865, Mr. Charlton ceased to consult Mr. Grenville-Murray or send further communications.

The application of Mr. Charlton to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens arose from the settlement of a law-suit with a M. Gowziorowsky, a sub-contractor, and the cancellation of the original contract in Mr. Charlton's possession.

This contract bears the following endorsement ⁽¹⁶⁾:—

"Government Fee, 2s. 6d. No. 46.

"I hereby certify that the above document has been presented this day for legalization, and a copy thereof deposited in the office of Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General.

"*British Consulate-General, Odessa, July 14, 1863.*

(L.S.)

"By order,
(Signed) "T. G. SMITH,
"For Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General."

Mr. Charlton wished to have the endorsement of the cancellation noted in the copy deposited in the Consulate.

It was not to be found there, and Mr. Stevens, on the 24th of January, 1867, applied by telegram and letter to Mr. Grenville-Murray in London, asking where he could find the box in question, as he supposed this contract was in it.

No reply was received to the telegram or letter, and on the 19th of February Mr. Stevens forwarded the correspondence on the subject to your Lordship.*

On the 2nd of March† the papers were sent by your Lordship to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

On the 4th of March‡ he informed your Lordship that he would immediately make the necessary inquiries, and on the 19th of that month.§ in his letter to your Lordship of that date, stated that he took charge of the papers at the request of the late Mr. Cutbill Manager of the Commercial Bank of London, and which, having no reference whatever to Her Majesty's Consulate-General, he had felt bound to deliver to that gentleman's representatives.

On the 22nd of March,|| seventeen questions were submitted to Mr. Grenville-Murray, who, on the 25th [? 26th] of March,¶ answered that he had received the papers from Mr. Charlton for Mr. Cutbill, at the request of the latter, conveyed to him by Mrs. Grenville-Murray, from whom he understood Mr. Cutbill had an interest in the contract.

It was further stated that Mr. Cutbill was dead, and that the papers were, on the 18th of March, handed over to Mr. Alfred Cutbill, his father's representative.

On Saturday, the 16th of March,** Mr. Furness wrote to Mr. Grenville-Murray with reference to the removal of the box and documents from the Consulate at Odessa, and said that unless he heard from Mr. Grenville-Murray, and had the box and the documents that were contained therein handed over to him in the course of a few days, he should be under the painful necessity of laying a statement of the matter before the Foreign Office.

Mr. Grenville-Murray, in his letter to your Lordship of the 26th of March, stated that the papers were handed to Mr. Cutbill on the 18th of March, and inclosed a letter to

* No. 79.

§ No. 83.

† No. 80.

|| No. 85.

‡ No. 82.

¶ No. 86.

** Inclosure 4 in No. 156, page 182.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(15.) In my letter to Lord Stanley of the 8th of April, 1867,* and in my replies to the seventeen questions on this subject which were sent to me by Mr. James Murray for categorical answers, I gave a full and accurate explanation of all the circumstances connected with this case, and I have nothing to add to that explanation now.†

(16.) I have no doubt that a copy of the document bearing this indorsement was received by my clerk, Mr. Smith, by whom the indorsement appears to have been made. I am quite unable to explain why the copy was not found in the archives of the Consulate. It certainly was not removed by me.

himself from Mr. Alfred Cutbill, dated the 25th, in which that gentleman says, "that the papers which were deposited with you at Odessa, and were kindly taken charge of by you at the request of my late father, were, more than a week ago, handed over to Mr. Furness' chief clerk by me, because I did not consider that my father's executors had any longer reasons for detaining them."

This box and papers, about which Mr. Grenville-Murray informed your Lordship on the 4th he would make inquiries, were, on the 18th, two days after Mr. Furness' letter, handed to Mr. Alfred Cutbill by Mr. Grenville-Murray without his being called upon to do so, had at once handed by Mr. Alfred Cutbill to Mr. Furness ⁽¹⁷⁾.

Mr. Alfred Cutbill is in error when he says, in his letter of the 25th,* that the papers were handed to Mr. Furness more than a week ago.

I further beg to call your Lordship's attention to the fact that, as these papers were not intended to be registered, no fees were paid.

So far as these papers are concerned, I am authorized to state that the only point on which Mr. Charlton feels aggrieved, is the statement to your Lordship by Mr. Grenville-Murray, that he received them for Mr. Cutbill, and not for Messrs. Furness and Co. ⁽¹⁸⁾.

Mr. Charlton contends that the fact of Mr. Grenville-Murray causing them to be handed over to Mr. Furness on Monday the 18th, two days after application was made for them on Saturday the 16th, is inconsistent with Mr. Grenville-Murray's view ⁽¹⁹⁾.

A copy of the missing contract with Mr. Gowziorowsky was in the box, but that was without any indorsement, showing it was intended for registration; and it is not unreasonable to suppose that it may have been a copy for Mr. Grenville-Murray's use, in common with the rest of the papers.

My attention was called to the fact that another contract with a sub-contractor, named M. Antonne, was not to be found in the archives where I searched for it ⁽²⁰⁾.

I have the honour to inclose a statement made to me by M. Antonne, and the copy of the indorsement on his contract, from which it appears that M. Antonne handed a copy of his contract to Mr. Grenville-Murray, who examined it with him, and then gave it to his clerk to "register," as M. Antonne expressed himself.

The certificate of registration endorsed on the original is signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray's clerk, but M. Antonne stated that Mr. Grenville-Murray affixed the seal which he showed me, which is a red medallion wafer bearing the Royal Arms, similar to that affixed to the document Inclosure No. 7 in this Report.

Madame Tagliaferro's Case.

The third case ⁽²¹⁾ to which my attention was directed by your Lordship was a question arising out of an application made to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens by Messrs. Tubino, of Berdiansk, for an amended certificate, empowering Madame Margaret Tagliaferro to sell a certain property at that place—as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in issuing a certificate, for which there does not appear to be any legal authority, and which was informal, and was of no value for the purpose for which it was intended ⁽²²⁾.

I have the honour to report, that it appears from Mr. Stevens' despatch to your Lordship of the 26th of February, 1867† (Inclosure No. 6), ⁽²³⁾, that in the autumn of 1866, Madame Tagliaferro, a widow of a British subject who was domiciled and died in Russia, had entered into a contract to sell to Messrs. Tubino, Italians, real property at Berdiansk, in Russia, belonging to her children, who are minors; and that on this occasion a certificate was granted by Mr. Grenville-Murray, the Consul-General at Odessa, empowering Madame Tagliaferro to sell this property.

In this despatch is an Inclosure (No. 1) of an original letter from Messrs. Tubino,

* Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

† No. 89.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(17.) For the reasons I have stated in my letter of the 8th of April, 1867,* and in my replies to the seventeen questions, I considered that the documents which I had received from the late Mr. Cutbill, I was bound to deliver to his representative.

(18.) I certainly received them for Mr. Cutbill, as his friend, and for no other person.

(19.) I did not cause them to be handed to Mr. Furness.

(20.) All I can say is, that I left all the papers of the Consulate with Mr. Perkins.

(21.) On the 22nd of November, 1866, whilst Mr. Perkins was acting as Consul-General at Odessa Mr. Stevens wrote to him from Nicolaief, stating that funds had been placed at his disposal to go to Odessa for a week to inquire into the affair of the sale of the Berdiansk property, and asked if the money for the sale had been, or was to be, deposited at the Consulate-General, and asked for leave of absence to go to Odessa. It is positively denied by all the members of the Tagliaferro family that they ever gave Mr. Stevens any instructions in the matter, or placed any funds at his disposal, and it is therefore manifestly of great importance that Mr. Stevens should send to the Foreign Office all letters and documents connected with this matter, and should explain whether the application of Messrs. Tubino, here referred to, for an amended certificate was preceded by any communication, personal or written, between Mr. Stevens and them. Mr. Stevens has a brother, a solicitor, at Malta.

(22.) I have already explained that this was merely an incomplete draft, and not, in any sense, a complete instrument.†

(23.) I earnestly request the particular attention of Lord Stanley to this despatch. This is one of the documents for a copy of which I have applied through my solicitors, but which has not been furnished to me.

* No. 36.

† No. 96 and Inclosures.

dated Berdiansk, ^{February 26}_{March 6}, 1867, and addressed to the Consul-General of Her Britannic Majesty at Odessa ⁽²⁴⁾, in which they say that the certificate delivered by the Consul-General to Madame Tagliaferro to empower her to sell on behalf of the minors was found to be informal by the Russian authorities, and required to be rectified.

Mr. Stevens declined to confirm the tenor of the certificate, or to certify to the signature or seal attached to it, and reported the matter to your Lordship.

I have the honour to inclose the original certificate (Inclosure 7), which is in Russian, with a red medallion wafer, bearing the Royal Arms, affixed opposite the signature ⁽²⁵⁾.

It is dated October, but the day of the month is omitted.

The translation of this document (Inclosure No. 5 in Mr. Stevens' despatch of February 26, 1867,*) is as follows:—

(Translation.)

“ Given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, to the British subject, Margherita Tagliaferro, to the effect that according to the Petition presented by her, Margherita Tagliaferro, to this Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Great Britain, on the 8th instant,† in which she explains that according to the decision of the Maltese Civil Tribunal, dated 24th September, 1863, and according to the Act of Partition made on the 24th December, of same year, the house and store with all the buildings and ground situate in the town of Berdiansk, in Queen Street, in the 43rd quarter (of the town), numbered 1 and 10, which has been in the joint possession of the partners of the former commercial firm of Berdiansk, Biagio Tagliaferro and Sons, has passed into the exclusive and full power of her children, Biagi, Felice, Odorada, Arsenia, and Alberto, minors, the heirs of the deceased husband, Simon Tagliaferro, for whom and which property she is named guardian; and that in receiving the aforesaid property at Berdiansk, she finds it more profitable for the interest of the minors to sell the above-mentioned house and store, and the money to be received for the aforesaid property to be placed out at interest, in the Credit Institution, for which reason she demands this Consulate-General to grant her, according to the laws of Great Britain, permission to expropriate by sale the above-mentioned property at Berdiansk, which belongs to her children, over whom she is guardian.

“ In consequence of which, Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, acknowledging the reasons and proofs (explained by Margherita Tagliaferro, the guardian of her own children, and their property) which have induced her to demand permission to sell the property at Berdiansk belonging to her children, and considering them beneficial to the interest of the minors, delivers to the mother, their guardian, the British subject Margherita Tagliaferro, this certificate, based on the laws of Great Britain, certifying that Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa grants to the guardian Margherita Tagliaferro, the right to sell the above-mentioned property of the minors at Berdiansk, to make a deed of sale, receive money, or expropriate by other means.

“ In witness whereof, this certificate is delivered to her under signature and Consular seal, October, 1866, Odessa.

(Signed) “ E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

(Red Medallion Wafer, with
Royal Arms affixed.)

“ Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.”

On the 16th of March,‡ Mr. Grenville-Murray was invited by your Lordship to explain his proceedings, but his replies were considered unsatisfactory; and on the 30th of March last, seventeen questions were submitted to Mr. Grenville-Murray ⁽²⁶⁾.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's statements, as derived from his answers to these questions, and his explanations to your Lordship in his despatch of the 8th of April last,§ are substantially as follows (see Inclosure 8).

He speaks of the property of the children as a building or ruined barn, which yielded no rent; had been offered for sale for eight years without finding a purchaser; and in which the interest of the minors was so entirely contingent on the satisfaction of prior claims, that it was stated to be, in fact, *nil*, both in law and equity.

Respecting the sale to Messrs Tubino, Mr. Grenville-Murray said that the property had not been sold, but that Madame Tagliaferro had power from the Courts at Malta to sell the interest of the children, and relied on these Maltese powers of sale, and not on the authority to sell granted to her by the Consulate-General in the certificate in Russian.

* Page 111.

‡ No. 91.

† October. This would be the 20th October, new style.—J. E. W.

§ No. 93.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(24.) This letter was, I believe, addressed to *me*.

(24.) *Note.*—Address at foot of letter is*—
 “A Monsieur,
 “Monsieur le Consul-Général
 “de Sa Majesté Britannique
 “à Odessa.”

(25.) This so-called “original certificate” was returned to the Bankers at Odessa after my departure, and was obtained from them by Mr. Stevens, by what authority I know not.

The “red medallion wafers, bearing the Royal arms,” are sold in the shops in London. They bear no resemblance to the Consular seal.

(26.) I request that my despatch and answers may be referred to.

(26.) *Note.*—See Nos. 94, 96, and 98.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

Madame Tagliaferro makes a written statement to this effect, which is inclosed in Mr. Grenville-Murray's despatch of the 8th of April, 1867, and relied on by Mr. Grenville-Murray to support his statement (see Inclosure 8).

As regards the issue of the certificate, Mr. Grenville-Murray said that it "was an undated draft;" that if it had not been a draft, his official signature would have been affixed in English, and that the day of the month would have been written in full.

He said that it was written in Russian to be sent through his banker to a Russian man of business, that he might advise, if a document of that description were perfected in an official form, it would be effectual for the purpose intended; and further, that this draft found at his bankers was left unburnt, in consequence of his absence from Odessa.

Mr. Grenville-Murray explained that the medallion seal was affixed merely as a convenient mode of showing where the official seal would be placed.

Mr. Grenville-Murray said that he was aware that foreign Consuls had no jurisdiction in Russia.

The explanations were submitted to the Queen's Advocate, and on the 26th of April your Lordship invited further explanations from Mr. Grenville-Murray,* who replied to your Lordship† that an impartial investigation must establish the accuracy of the account given by himself and Madame Tagliaferro (Inclosure No. 9).

With this information I entered on my inquiry at Odessa.

Mr. Grenville-Murray did not avail himself of the opportunity afforded him of being present, and I have not in any way received assistance from him⁽²⁷⁾.

I now respectfully submit to your Lordship the facts which came before me bearing on Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in this matter.

They are as follows:—

On ^{Sept. 30th} Oct. 12th, 1866, Madame Tagliaferro instructed her agent at Berdiansk, M. Luca Carburi, by telegraph from Odessa, to accept an offer for the purchase of the property in question by Messrs. Tubino, for 11,500 roubles, on which telegram M. Carburi acted (Inclosure No. 10).

Madame Tagliaferro, in confirmation of her telegram, subsequently forwarded to M. Carburi a written power of attorney dated the ^{10th} 22nd of October, before the President of the Chamber of Commerce (Inclosure No. 11).

On the ^{17th} 19th of October, Messrs. Tubino telegraphed their agents, Messrs. Raffalovich, bankers at Odessa, to inform the English Consul⁽²⁸⁾ that they (Messrs. Raffalovich) were ready to honour Messrs. Tubino's bill for 11,000 roubles at sight as soon as the legal formalities for cession were accomplished for the purchase of the premises of the widow and heirs Tagliaferro, and on the next day, the ^{8th} 20th of October, this telegram was confirmed by letter (Inclosure No. 12).

In this letter Messrs. Tubino said that it appeared that Madame Tagliaferro was dependent on the English Consul⁽²⁹⁾ for her proceedings on behalf of the heirs, and that that Consular authority had requested, through the widow's attorney, payment of the purchase money before forwarding the necessary documents.

They also request their agents to inquire, by writing, of the English Consul, whether the widow, Margaret Tagliaferro, was authorized by that Consulate to alienate the property of the heirs, for although they were persuaded she might be so, they wished to have a legal document for greater security.

It would seem that this request was obeyed by Messrs. Raffalovich, and acceded to by Mr. Grenville-Murray; for, on the ^{13th} 25th October, Messrs. Raffalovich acknowledged by letter (Inclosure No. 13) the receipt from Mr. Grenville-Murray of four documents relating to the affair, and two days later they wrote (Inclosure No. 14) to Mr. Grenville-Murray that in accordance with his instructions contained in his note of the day before (Inclosure No. 15), they had sent these documents to Messrs. Tubino at Berdiansk.

I was informed by one of the Messrs. Raffalovich that these documents were the certificate in Russian (Inclosure No. 7), two documents relating to proceedings before the Maltese Tribunals (Inclosures Nos. 16 and 17), and a copy of the power of attorney to M. Carburi (Inclosure No. 11).

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the certificate in Russian called by Mr. Grenville-Murray an undated draft, and by Madame Tagliaferro a brouillon (Inclosure No. 19).

The person who made this copy certifies that it was written by him in October 1866, in the house Lüders (Mr. Grenville-Murray's private residence), in the presence of Mr. Grenville-Murray and Madame Margaret Tagliaferro, and that he copied it from a

* No. 98.

† No. 99.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(27.) Mr. Wilkins has never asked for any assistance from me.

(28.) To inform me as the personal friend of Madame Tagliaferro, not as Consul-General.

(29.) On me, not as Consul-General, but as the trustee appointed by her husband.

brouillon, composed by his master, Mr. Serebrini, a sworn advocate of the Tribunal of Commerce ⁽³⁰⁾.

The paper was supplied by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and bears the same watermarks as does the inclosed document (Inclosure No. 20) issued from the Consulate at Odessa in 1864 ⁽³¹⁾.

This person does not recollect the exact date in October 1866, on which he copied it.

Your Lordship will, however, call to mind that Messrs. Raffalovich acknowledged the receipt of it on the $\frac{1}{2}$ ³/₅th October (Inclosure No. 13), some days after the date of the petition referred to in the certificate in Russian.

On the ^{19th}/_{31st} October, 1866, Mr. Grenville-Murray, in a letter in English (Inclosure No. 21), requested Messrs. Raffalovich to forward the 11,000 roubles due from Messrs. Tubino to the Tagliaferro heirs, to his account with Messrs. Coutts and Co., Bankers, London, as soon as they receive the same.

The next day Mr. Grenville-Murray left Odessa on leave of absence, and in a few weeks later Madame Tagliaferro also left Odessa.

On ^{October 22nd,}/_{November 3rd.} Messrs. Tubino wrote to Messrs. Raffalovich a letter (Inclosure No. 22), of which the following is an extract:—

“Among the documents you forwarded to us respecting the Tagliaferro premises, we note in the Act for authorization to sell, delivered by the English Consul at Odessa to the widow Tagliaferro, that the signature is not legalized by any of the local authorities there.

“Doubting that we shall very likely have to encounter difficulties at Kertch on that account, we send it back to you in a separate parcel post-paid, begging you will cause it to be invested with that formality, and then speedily sent to Kertch to our agent, Mr. John Deopik, at that place.

“We likewise observe, that there exists neither an Act (deed) of property, nor a draught of the premises, which we beg you will be so kind as to require of the widow or the English Consul, as well as any other document they may possess, sending them to us at Kertch to the address of our said agent.

“As soon as these documents are sent, please to advise us by wire, that we may repair to Kertch per first steamer, to finish the deed of purchase.

“We note also, that in the document we return there is no Consular oil stamp (meaning official seal), and not knowing whether such a mode is regular, it is also on that account that we beg you will please to have it proved to be true.”

Some further correspondence ensued, and on the ^{20th November}/_{2nd December} Messrs. Tubino wrote to Messrs. Raffalovich as follows (Inclosure No. 23):—

“Our agent at Kertch, Mr. Deopik, advises the receipt of the Consular certificate, and the returning of it to you for the legalization of the signature of the Consul.

“As that certificate needs to be rectified in the enumerations of the draft of the premises, we believe that it ought to be made again, on which we beg you will kindly concert with the widow, Tagliaferro, and with the English Consulate, in order to remove any difficulty to the completion of that affair.”

On the ^{26th November}/_{5th December} Messrs. Raffalovich wrote to Messrs. Tubino that Mr. Deopik had returned the document referred to, but that they could not get it legalized, as the Consul was absent, and, moreover, would return no more, his Government having destined him for another post.

They consequently requested that all the other documents be returned, since, as Messrs. Tubino could do nothing with them, Messrs. Raffalovich were bound to return them to those from whom they had received them (Inclosure No. 24).

I have endeavoured to lay before your Lordship the material circumstances bearing on this case which came before me as having occurred in Russia.

Standing alone, they perhaps throw but little light on this inquiry; and as the correspondence between Messrs. Tubino and Messrs. Raffalovich may also appear to your Lordship to have but slight connection with the proceedings of Mr. Grenville-Murray in Russia, I beg respectfully to inform your Lordship that although I have made use of this correspondence for the purpose of the narrative, I have also considered that it will enable your Lordship the better to form an opinion on the proceedings of Mr. Grenville-

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(30.) I do not see that the fact is of any importance, but I do not believe that the paper was written in my presence. The clerk states that the draft was prepared by his master, Mr. Serebrini; and there seems to be no reason why he should copy his master's draft in my presence.

It is not stated on whose instructions Mr. Serebrini prepared the draft.

(31.) It does not appear on inspection that the paper bears any watermark.

(31.) *Note.*—Both papers have this watermark—

“ Thomas James,

“ Hurcott Mill.

“ 1859.

“ Lion Rampant.”

Murray, in concert with Madame Tagliaferro and M. Carburi, in London, in February 1867.

For similar reasons, I have also given the substance of Mr. Grenville-Murray's explanations, into the correctness of which, and of Madame Tagliaferro's statements, he has challenged inquiry.

I beg further to submit that the correspondence shows that Messrs. Tubino looked on the authority to Madame Tagliaferro to sell the property as a complete instrument, and not simply as a brouillon, or undated draft.*

Your Lordship will recollect that, on the ^{25th January}_{6th February}, 1867, Messrs. Tubino wrote the letter to the Consulate-General at Odessa, inclosed in Mr. Stevens' despatch (Inclosure No. 6), stating that this certificate required to be rectified, and expressing their surprise at delay.

At this time Mr. Grenville-Murray, Madame Tagliaferro, and M. Carburi (Madame Tagliaferro's agent) were in London, and on the 18th of February, Mr. Grenville-Murray made an appointment at the Russian Consulate-General for the next day.

On the 18th of February, Mr. Grenville-Murray also wrote from London to Messrs. Raffalovich, in Odessa, as follows (Inclosure No. 25):—

"Messieurs,

"Je vous prie de vouloir bien envoyer à Kertch à *M. Jean Deopik*, pour être remis à *M. Luca Carburi*, les documents en votre possession concernant la vente de la Maison Tagliaferro, à Berdiansk, et de passer les frais de poste au compte de M. Tubino.

"Agréez, &c.

(Signé)

"E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,
"Consul-Général d'Angleterre pour les Ports de la
Mer Noire et la Mer d'Asov."

On the same day (18th February) Madame Tagliaferro informed Messrs. Tubino, by letter, that she considered the sale of her premises at Berdiansk in perfect order; that the document of the English Consul-General at Odessa, Mr. Grenville-Murray, was only issued after the consent of the guardians, as they will find out from the Malta papers in their possession; and that, in consequence of Mr. Grenville-Murray's absence from Odessa, the authorities there made difficulties respecting that document, there not being the means of largely bribing (greasing) them.

The lady went on to say that, to remedy this and bring the affair to an end, she had taken proper steps to have *another document* made by the Russian Consul in London, and that, together *with the old one* in the possession of M. Raffalovich, she hoped the affair would soon be finished.

Madame Tagliaferro added that this document will be given to M. Carburi, her agent, to whom would be given the power to retire the one with Messrs. Raffalovich.

Messrs. Tubino are, in the same letter, requested to remit immediately the purchase-money to Mr. Grenville-Murray, according to the instructions left with them, as soon as the formalities are finished, and they have become regular owners of the property.

On the ^{22nd February}_{6th March}, 1867, Messrs. Tubino informed Messrs. Raffalovich that they had just received, at Berdiansk, a telegram from Madame Tagliaferro, from London, to the effect that Carburi had set out for Kertch, with necessary documents to finish purchase of premises, which was not feasible through Stevens (Inclosure No. 27).

On the 10th of March, M. Carburi wrote from Naples to Messrs. Tubino, saying that he had forgotten to advise them before that he was the bearer of a new document from the British Consul of Odessa, Mr. Murray, made in London, and legalized by the Consul-General of Russia, and that Mr. Murray had written to Messrs. Raffalovich to send the *old document* to Kertch to M. Deopik, so that *with the new one* he could complete the sale of the property (Inclosure No. 28).

I respectfully submit to your Lordship that the letter of Madame Tagliaferro of the 18th of February, 1867 (Inclosure No. 25), is inconsistent with that lady's statement, six weeks subsequently,† that the document in Russian was a brouillon, and that M. Carburi, writing from Naples, could not have supposed that Mr. Grenville-Murray looked upon it as an undated draft.

The contents of the letters of Mr. Grenville-Murray, Madame Tagliaferro, and M. Carburi, are scarcely consistent with the statement of Mr. Grenville-Murray, on the 8th April following, that this document was only left unburnt in the hands of his bankers in consequence of his absence from Odessa.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

† See Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

One of the documents of which M. Carburi was bearer is a certificate in English in Mr. Grenville-Murray's handwriting, with his official description added, with a blue medallion wafer bearing the Royal Arms affixed in the usual place where the seal is affixed in official Consular documents, and on the contrary side of the signature to that on which the seal is placed in private legal instruments under seal in England.

I give this document in full (Inclosure No. 29) ⁽⁸²⁾ :—

"Whereas Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro, widow of the late Simon Tagliaferro, a British subject residing at Odessa, acting both on her own part and as trustee and guardian for her infant children, has alleged valid and sufficient reasons for the sale of certain houses and property situated Zelonia Oolitzza, Nos. 1, 8, and 9, Quartel 43, at Berdiansk, in the Empire of Russia, I hereby authorize and consent to the said sale, as co-trustee with Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro, for the said property, on condition that the purchase-money shall be paid to the joint account of Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro and myself, through Messrs. Raffalovich, Bankers, at Odessa.

"Witness my hand and seal, London, this nineteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

(Signed) "E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY,

(Blue Medallion Wafer, with
Royal Arms affixed.)

"*Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Russian
Ports in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff.*"

A certificate in Russian, under the hand and official seal of the Consul-General for Russia in London, is added.

This certificate is merely to the genuineness of Mr. Grenville-Murray's signature.

The seal is not referred to, and the Clerk at the Russian Consulate who attended to this matter does not recollect if it was affixed at the time or not.

The other document given to M. Carburi was probably a confirmation of the power of attorney given to him in October 1866, as Madame Tagliaferro was identified at the Russian Consulate-General by Mr. Grenville-Murray, and had her signature to such a document attested there.

Shortly after my arrival in Odessa one of the Messrs. Tubino came there, and placed Mr. Stevens in possession of the documents and copies of the correspondence.

I found no traces of this particular transaction with the property of the children of Simon Tagliaferro in the archives of the Consulate.

There is evidence that on other occasions Mr. Grenville-Murray has intervened in matters connected with the property now in question in his official capacity as Her Majesty's Consul-General (Inclosure No. 30) ⁽⁸³⁾.

On more than one occasion Mr. Grenville-Murray has also claimed to be invested with a private legal right to direct the affairs of the children of Simon Tagliaferro, but I have been unable through any public source to ascertain by what authority he claims such right.

Mr. Grenville-Murray interested himself on behalf of Madame Tagliaferro in negotiations with the tenants; in directing how the rents should be remitted; in making inquiries respecting repairs; in receiving money for that purpose from the guardian of the children in Malta in an appeal to the authorities at Berdiansk to remove a sequestration of the property for non-payment of town dues, and in the sale of other property by Madame Tagliaferro there.

Mr. Consul Zohrab states that when he declined in 1865 to accept the sum of 1,434 roubles placed to his credit at Mr. Mavracordatos at Odessa, for the repairs of the Tagliaferro property at Berdiansk, Mr. Grenville-Murray told him that as he was one of the executors or administrators, it would be sufficient to notify his intention of declining to him (Inclosure 31).

In the document dated the 19th February, 1867, Mr. Grenville-Murray authorizes and "consents to the said sale as co-trustee with Mrs. Margaret Tagliaferro for the said property on condition that the purchase-money be paid to the joint account of Mrs. Tagliaferro and myself."

Messrs. Tubino, in a private letter to their agents, Messrs. Raffalowitch, dated $\frac{1}{2}$ 8th February, express their fears that they are not being dealt with in good faith.

They say that it seemed strange to them that a British Consular authority should lend his hand to such an act, thus placing his honour and position in jeopardy, and they expressed their determination to claim reimbursement of the expenses they had incurred, and to make known, through the Italian Consular authorities in London to the English Government the deceit practised on them by one of its representatives (Inclosure No. 32).

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(32.) This document expresses that I was acting as co-trustee with Madame Tagliaferro.

(33.) Where is the evidence that I intervened in my official capacity?

(33.) *Note.*—See pages 205 and 206.

It was further stated by Messrs. Tubino, that they were requested, about the month of April last, to do away with the documents relating to sale (Inclosure No. 33) ⁽³⁴⁾.

I have brought the originals of these documents with me, but have undertaken to return them to Mr. Stevens, at Odessa, to be handed back to the agents of Messrs. Tubino.

Nearly a year had elapsed, when I left Odessa, since the contract for sale was made; but up to that time no authority had been produced by any qualified trustees, the guardian of the children at Malta, the Courts at Malta, or the proper Tribunals in Russia, to complete the purchase.

Although it has appeared to me unnecessary to encumber this report with proceedings in the Tribunals of Russia, or Malta, or to trace the title to the premises in question, I respectfully beg to inform your Lordship that I have caused the Records of the Maltese Tribunals to be searched, and have also taken opinion on legal questions, and caused necessary inquiries to be made in Russia.

The Tribunals at Malta do not seem to have assumed jurisdiction over the disposition of real property in Russia.

As I am advised, the Maltese Tribunals only appointed Madame Tagliaferro guardian over her children, "in that Island," as regarded their interest, not included in the guardianship of their uncle, Geralomo Tagliaferro, under the will of the paternal grandfather, Biagio Tagliaferro, by which they were entitled to upwards of 10,000*l.* sterling.

In the capacity above mentioned Madame Tagliaferro became a party to certain proceedings in Malta, to represent the interests of her children in the liquidation and partition of the assets of a firm, of which her late husband was member (Inclosure No. 34).

An Act of Partition approved by the Court, dated 24th December, 1863, referred to in the certificate in Russian, dated October 1866 (Inclosure No. 7), was made by which one undivided moiety of the property in question at Berdiansk belonging to the other partners was ceded to the children of their father, Simon Tagliaferro, and to Madame Tagliaferro as their tutrix.

Madame Tagliaferro claimed for herself certain rights under English law, as the widow of a deceased intestate husband, a British subject.

It was admitted that the other undivided moiety belonged to her husband, Simon Tagliaferro, at his death intestate in Russia, where he was domiciled and all his children born.

Under the Russian law a widow would be entitled to one-seventh part, and the children to the other six-sevenths.

I think, therefore, that Madame Tagliaferro may have had some interest in the property, but small in proportion to that of her children, and not such an interest as would entitle her to sell it without the consent of the Russian Tribunal, which has jurisdiction over the property of minors.

Madame Tagliaferro would probably have had no difficulty in getting appointed tutrix of her children's property by this Tribunal.

In that capacity, however, she could not have sold the property without the consent of the Senate, and some mode would have been pointed out in which the purchase-money belonging to the minors should be invested for their benefit (Inclosure No. 35).

I could not ascertain that Madame Tagliaferro ever made application to the Russian Tribunal with reference to the interests of her children in this property.

In 1864, that lady made application to the Tribunals at Kertch to be put into possession of the property at Berdiansk, which she stated in her petition had become the sole property of her children.

The Courts at Kertch returned the petition, and referred Mrs. Tagliaferro to Berdiansk (Inclosure No. 36).

I believe I have omitted to state that all the children, four in number, were born in Russia, where their father was domiciled, and died, in 1859.

I have the honour respectfully to submit the foregoing statement for your Lordship's consideration.

I feel conscious that many imperfections must be apparent; but I trust that the unprecedented nature of the case and the difficulties I have had to contend with may justify your Lordship in granting me a kind indulgence.

Marriages.

The fourth question is put as follows:—

A question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Ullo,* a Maltese,

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

24.) Requested by whom?

for information as to the validity of a marriage certificate given to him by Mr. Grenville-Murray) as to the legality of Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings in cases of marriage of British subjects at Odessa ⁽³⁵⁾.

My Report on this question may be divided between the consideration of Mr. Grenville-Murray's observance of his duty to the Crown, as disclosed by his own record of his official acts, and from the information I derived from other sources ⁽³⁶⁾.

An inspection of the register of marriages in the Consulate at Odessa at once convinced me of the necessity for the "Odessa Marriage Act, 1867,"* which at your Lordship's instance was passed in the last session of Parliament.

The irregularities appeared so numerous, and of so grave a character, that I thought it would be the better course to bring the register to England, and submit it to some authority whose opinion would have greater weight than my own (Inclosure No. 37A) ⁽³⁷⁾.

I have the honour to submit to your Lordship the following opinion of the Registrar-General founded on the official acts of Mr. Grenville-Murray, as recorded by himself:—

"To J. E. Wilkins, Esq.

"Sir,

"General Registrar Office, Somerset House,
November 29, 1867.

"In conformity with the desire of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs I have examined the documents transmitted to me by you connected with alleged irregularities on the part of Mr. E. C. G. Murray, Consul-General at Odessa, with respect to marriages of British subjects under Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68 ⁽³⁸⁾, and for the information of Lord Stanley, I proceed to make the following observations:—

"The irregularities appear to me to have been numerous, and of a very grave character."

"With respect to the marriage of N. A. Ullo and C. Cordich, registered as No. 11, and solemnized on the 23rd November, 1861, it is evident that the notice was received on the 23rd November, that the licence was granted on that same day, and the marriage solemnized and registered on that same day ⁽³⁹⁾.

"This is in direct contravention of the 3rd and 6th and 9th Sections of the Statute above-mentioned.

"The 18th Section of that Statute renders a Consul liable to the same penalties as a registrar in England and Wales.

"In England and Wales a registration officer issuing a license for marriage before the expiration of seven days after the entry of the notice is, under the 40th Section of 6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, guilty of felony.

"Therefore, I hold that the Consul-General of Odessa, if he had been prosecuted within three years after the commission of this offence (6 and 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, sec. 41), might have been convicted of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude ⁽⁴⁰⁾.

"It also appears that the facts are not correctly recorded in the register.

"It is there stated that the marriage was solemnized in the British Consulate according to the rites of the Church of England, whereas it appears that that was not the case, and that the marriage was solemnized according to the rites of the Church of Rome in a Roman Catholic Chapel ⁽⁴¹⁾.†

"For this false entry, I hold that Mr. E. C. G. Murray might have been prosecuted under the 36th Section of 24 and 25 Vict., cap. 98, and, if convicted, might have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, or not less than three years.

* Page 69.

† Nos. 105 and 107.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(35.) The application of Mr. Ullo should be produced. The marriage was in 1861; and it is a singular coincidence that Mr. Ullo's application was made seven years afterwards, and not until Mr. Stevens had been appointed Acting Consul-General. I have been informed that Mr. Ullo is a relative or connection of Mr. Stevens.

(36.) I beg leave to refer to my despatch of the 5th of April, 1867,* Mr. James Murray's despatch of the 19th of June,† and my answering despatch of the 20th of June,‡ since which I have not received any communication on the subject.

(37.) The "Register Book," produced for my inspection at the Foreign Office, is not in the condition in which it was when I left Odessa. The entries seem to be bound up in the most irregular manner, without regard to dates or sequence. A great many are mutilated, and are obviously rough drafts only. Mr. Stevens is said to have thoroughly re-arranged the archives.

(38.) When I went to Odessa, I was not furnished with the Act of the 6th and 7th Wm. IV, cap. 85, and 12th and 13th Vict., cap. 68, nor was my attention in any way directed to them. The Registration of Marriages was under the superintendence of the Vice-Consul, who had filled that office when my predecessor was Consul-General; and the Registration remained under his charge until the abolition of his office, against my strong remonstrances.

(38.) *Note.*—See "Mr. Grenville-Murray's Instructions on Appointment as Consul-General at Odessa." page 1.

(39.) I think there must be a mistake in the date of the notice. I do not believe that in any case the notice and the licence were signed, and the marriage solemnized, on the same day, although as I had never seen the Act regulating Marriages at the British Consulate, (a) I am not able to state that its provisions in every case were observed. It does not appear that Mr. Ullo has been interrogated as to his recollection of the date on which the notice was given.

(40.) The 40th section enacts that any Superintendent Registrar who shall "knowingly and wilfully" do certain acts shall be guilty of felony; and the Registrar-General assumes that any irregularities which may have occurred at Odessa must have been "knowingly and wilfully" committed by me, and presumes to add that I might have been convicted of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude.

I take upon myself to remark, that it is in the highest degree indecent and improper in any one, and especially a public officer, to make offensive observations of this kind on assumptions perfectly groundless and unwarranted.

(41.) On this subject I beg to refer to my despatches of the 17th and 30th of April, 1867.

(41.) *Note.*—See Nos. 105 and 107.

"With respect to the marriage of L. Noonan and E. Vasalivia, registered as No. 13, and solemnized on the 5th October, 1862 (⁴²), it is evident that the notice was received on the 24th September, 1862, and license was granted on that same day in direct contravention of the 3rd and 6th Sections of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

"Therefore, in this instance also, it appears to me that the Consul-General might have been proceeded against for felony.

"I have also, with much attention, investigated the marriage of John Dinsmore and E. Sonosky, registered as No. 18, and solemnized on the 17th of January, 1864.

"Also the marriage of W. Laney and S. Cramer, registered as No. 19, and solemnized on the 14th of September, 1865.

"Also the marriage of G. Goddard and Mary Vasilivia, registered as No. 20, and solemnized on the 18th of October, 1865.

"Also the marriage of R. F. Oakley and E. Fletcher, registered as No. 17, and solemnized on the 23rd of August, 1863.

"With respect to these four marriages, the irregularities committed are glaring, and in more than one instance may be held to be fatal to the validity of the marriage.

"I think it unnecessary to state at present the exact nature of these irregularities in detail, but they are of such a nature as to have rendered the Consul-General liable to heavy penalties.

"With respect to the certified copies of marriage transmitted to me here from Odessa, I have had constant occasion to complain of Mr. E. C. G. Murray's neglect of duty (⁴³, ⁴⁴).

"Considering that for every marriage by licence in a Consulate the Consul receives the large fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, I think it unpardonable that he should habitually be guilty of irregularities rendering such marriages null and void, and subsequent issue illegitimate.

"British subjects in foreign countries, ignorant of the precise particulars required by law, naturally imagine that so high a functionary as a Consul-General, receiving a large salary, and an additional fee of 2*l.* 10*s.*, would consider himself bound to see that his fellow-subjects were not deceived in a matter so important (⁴⁵).

"It is also my duty to report that from January 1863 to December 1865, no Returns of Births or Deaths recorded at Odessa, in conformity with the letter from the Foreign Office of the 7th of November, 1849, have been transmitted to me here, although of births, twenty appear to have been registered (⁴⁶).

"This is also a grave irregularity in direct contravention of the orders of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

"I have, &c.

!! (Signed) "GEORGE GRAHAM, Registrar-General."

It may not be necessary for me to enter into details of any irregularity or false entry not appearing on the face of the Registrar.

The case of the marriage of William Laney with Sarah Cramer, however, requires special notice (No. 19 in Register).

The license was signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray's clerk, and the Marriage Register purports to be signed by "Simon Horowitz," who alleged he had authority to solemnize this marriage from Mr. Grenville-Murray (⁴⁷).

I have made a special report on this case to your Lordship,* but at that time I had not the grounds for doubting whether M. Horowitz did sign the Register I now possess. His name appears to me to be in the handwriting of Mr. Lyon.

I have the honour to inclose a genuine signature of M. Horowitz (Inclosure) and two

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(42.) I think that there must be a mistake in the date of the licence.

(43.) I request that I may be furnished with copies of any complaints made by the Registrar-General of my neglect of duty.

(44.) I observe that by the 11th section of the Acts of 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68, the Consul is to register marriages in two Marriage Register Books to be furnished to him by the Registrar-General (through one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State) according to the form provided for the Registration of Marriages by the Act of 12 and 13 Wm. IV, cap. 68, I never received any book from the Registrar-General. If I had, the forms prescribed would have been attended to.

(45.) I never received any fee for marriages, and no fee is authorized by the Consular Fee Table.

(44.) *Note.*—See Inclosure 2 in No. 40, and No. 47.

(45.) *Note.*—The fees are regulated by Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

(46.) I sent the annual returns through the Foreign Office. I was not appointed until 1858.

(47.) Mr. Wilkins has in the most improper manner suppressed important facts connected with this case. He makes no reference to the facts stated in the letter addressed by M. Horowitz to Lord Stanley on June $\frac{1}{2}$, 1867,* which are all-important, and which were known to him from the statement of M. Horowitz himself.

I received a letter from a gentleman at Kiev, about 400 miles from Odessa, stating that he was a Colonel in the British service, and had been wrongfully arrested and thrown into prison, where he was treated with great barbarity; and he begged that I would come to him and obtain his release. He added, that it was useless to write, and that I must attend personally, as the authorities would not pay any attention to letters.

I considered it to be my duty, though at great cost of time and money, to go immediately to Kiev. Under an authority I had from Lord Russell, I, before leaving

(47.) *Note.*—See Inclosure 38 in Mr. Wilkins' Report (No. 156), and Mr. Wilkins' Report (No. 143).

instances (Inclosure No. 39) of the name of Simon Horowitz in the handwriting of Mr. Lyon, for comparison with the Register.

It seems to me doubtful if this marriage was made valid by the "Odessa Marriage Act, 1867."

1st. It was not solemnized in the presence of Mr. E. C. Grenville-Murray.

2nd. Was M. Horowitz duly authorized?

He was not reported by Mr. Grenville-Murray as having been left in charge, as Acting Consul-General, nor was his position confirmed by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and

3rd. Even if he did sign the Register, his official description is not stated.

No fees for the solemnization of marriages appear in the Fee Book ⁽⁴⁸⁾.

Entries in Registers of Births and Deaths.

The fifth case is a question (arising out of an application made to Mr. Stevens by Mr. Robertson for an amended certificate of the Registry of the birth of a child) as to Mr. Grenville-Murray's proceedings under the instructions issued from the Foreign Office, in registering births and deaths, and in issuing certificates of such Registry.*

In this case I do not think it necessary to make a detailed Report, as I am decidedly of opinion that, except in one very grave instance, Mr. Grenville-Murray was to blame only so far as he may be considered blameable in having permitted his Clerk in almost all instances, from May 1863 until December 1865, to sign the Register of Births "for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General," and in not making the yearly Returns as pointed out by the Registrar-General in an official letter of the 29th of November, 1867, in which he says, "that from January 1863 to December 1865 no returns of births, recorded at Odessa, in conformity with the letter from the Foreign Office of the 7th of November, 1849, have been transmitted to me here, although of births, twenty appear to have been registered."

An investigation of the particular instances brought to your Lordship's notice by Mr. Stevens, of mistakes in the registration of births and deaths, merely indicated misapprehension in one case and inadvertence in another.

There are two entries, however, in the Register of Births, each signed by the clerk, which require explanation ⁽⁴⁹⁾.

On the 23rd August, 1863, Mr. Thomas Fairland Oakley and Miss Fletcher were married in the Consulate at Odessa, and the marriage certificate was signed by Mr. Grenville-Murray.

On 24th August, 1863, a female child is registered as born to these parents on that day at Steblow, in the Government of Kieff, several hundred miles distant from Odessa ⁽⁵⁰⁾.

The father signed as the informant.

On the 9th November, 1863, a male child by the same parents is registered as born on the 10th October, 1863, forty-seven days after the birth of his sister ⁽⁵¹⁾.

The informant is M. Rouville, a witness at the marriage ⁽⁵²⁾.

M. Rouville informed me that Mr. and Mrs. Oakley were first married by a pastor of the Lutheran Church, at a place called Smiela, and that in the autumn of 1862, Mr. Oakley wrote to him to register the birth of a child at the British Consulate at Odessa.

On making application, M. Rouville was told by Mr. Grenville-Murray that the marriage was not valid ⁽⁵³⁾.

Mr. Grenville-Murray further stated that if Mr. and Mrs. Oakley would come to Odessa he would marry them, and some days after he would register the child ⁽⁵⁴⁾.

On the 1st October, 1862,† Mr. Grenville-Murray asked for instructions from Earl Russell, whether the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley was valid, and on the 17th March, 1863,‡ was informed it was for them to take legal advice on that point.

In a despatch to Earl Russell of 4th December, 1862,§ Mr. Grenville-Murray inquired

* See page 132.

† No. 21.

‡ No. 24.

§ *Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.*—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a letter and inclosure which I have just received from Mr. Laurent Galéa, a British subject residing at Kieff, requesting to know what steps he can take, if any,

Odessa, December 4, 1862.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

Odessa, appointed M. Horowitz, the Danish Consul, and Lloyd's Agent, to act during my absence.* I was absent only three days, having travelled night and day.

During my absence the marriage took place, in the presence of M. Horowitz, under the pressing circumstances stated by him in his letter to Lord Stanley above referred to,† and he signed the certificates, as he himself told Mr. Wilkins.

It is difficult to imagine a more unscrupulous suppression of facts than is here exhibited.

(48.) I never received any fee for the solemnization of marriages, no fee being authorized by the Consular Fee Book.

See No. 143.

(48.) *Note.*—The fees are regulated by Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68.

(49.) I submit that Mr. Smith, the Clerk, who is now Vice-Consul at Beyrout, ought to have been interrogated as to these entries. I engaged him on the recommendation of the Rev. S. Hawtrey, Mathematical Master at Eton, and he was a very conscientious, trustworthy person.

(50.) I have no personal knowledge of this entry on the register. It appears to have been made by Mr. Smith. I am not aware that he had any knowledge of the circumstances here stated, or any power to refuse to register a birth on information given in due form, unless he knew at the time that the information was false.

(51.) I know nothing personally of this entry. It appears to have been made by Mr. Smith.

(52.) M. Rouville is, I believe, a Frenchman, who keeps a small shop at Odessa. According to his own statement, he must have known that a very gross fraud was perpetrated on Mr. Smith.

(53.) I deny that I told M. Rouville the marriage was not valid. My doing so was quite inconsistent with my writing to Lord Russell on the 1st of October, 1862, for information as to the validity of the marriage, and his Lordship's answer.

(54.) I solemnly deny the truth of M. Rouville's statement, which amounts to this: that I entered into a conspiracy with him and Mr. Oakley to commit a gross fraud, by agreeing to register the birth of a child born before marriage as having been born after marriage, in the interest of the Oakleys, who are utter strangers to me.

* M. Horowitz received no authority from the Secretary of State to act.

† No. 138.

if there are any means under the English law by which an illegitimate child could be legitimized; and in a despatch dated the 5th January, 1863,* he was informed there was not⁽⁵⁵⁾.

A few months after these instructions were received Mr. and Mrs. Oakley came to Odessa, and were married at the Consulate, and their child was registered as born the day after at Steblow, several hundred miles off.

towards the legal adoption of a child born to him by a young lady, whom he seems to have been prevented only by unforeseen circumstances from marrying.

I have thought that it was just barely possible that the laws respecting adoption which exist among Her Majesty's subjects in India might be made to apply to this case; and that under their protection he and his wife might be able to carry out an object which on his part appears so just and upon hers so magnanimous.

Awaiting your Lordship's instructions, I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

Inclosure 1.

M. L. Galéa to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

M. le Consul,

Kiew. le $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁵/₇ Novembre, 1862.

SI je prends la liberté de m'adresser à votre Excellence par la démarche que je viens faire auprès de vous, c'est pour vous prier, M. le Consul, de me donner quelques conseils sur ce dont je vais vous entretenir.

Je suis arrivé en Russie au mois de Juillet 1857; un mois et demi après, je me trouvai dans le Gouvernement d'Ekatérinoslau, où l'année suivante je fis des projets de mariage; déjà tout était prêt pour me marier lorsque ma fiancée, qui était déjà enceinte de quatre mois, partit pour la Suisse, où des affaires de famille la réclamèrent.

De quelques mois je n'eus pas de ses nouvelles, lorsque j'appris par elle-même que le 20 Février, 1859, elle avait mis au monde un fils dont je me reconnais être le père. Ce fut alors que par des circonstances de familles imprévues je dus renoncer à m'unir à elle, et l'année suivante, le 12 Janvier, 1860, je me mariai avec Mademoiselle Allaz Sallaville de Laval. En ma qualité de sujet Britannique, je fis reconnaître mon mariage par votre Excellence au mois de Juillet de l'année 1861, ma femme le fit enregistrer elle-même à la chancellerie de votre Consulat par ma procuration.

Pendant deux ans, M. le Consul, j'ai gardé le secret de la naissance de cet enfant vis-à-vis de tout le monde, et principalement vis-à-vis de ma femme.

Il y a deux mois qu'ayant rencontré à Kiew la mère de mon enfant, j'ai appris par elle-même qu'il est à l'étranger, entre des mains étrangères, attendu qu'elle n'a aucune ressource pour pouvoir l'élever.

Quand j'ai fait part à ma femme de tout ce que je viens de dire à votre Excellence, émue par un sentiment de pitié pour le pauvre enfant, elle consent comme moi à le reconnaître et à le légitimer comme son propre enfant. La mère de l'enfant, qui n'a aucune ressource ou aucun moyen d'existence, demande à ce que ma femme et moi nous le reconnaissons légitimement et que je lui donne mon nom, puisque je déclare en être le père.

Il sera ici dans peu de temps, et comme je veux lui donner mon [nom ?] et le faire baptiser Catholique, c'est pour cela que je supplie votre Excellence de me conseiller, de m'aider, de me faire parvenir, si c'est possible, un certificat, un acte ou une pièce quelconque comme preuve que Paul Galéa, sujet Britannique (car je désire le faire naturaliser tel), est véritablement fils légitime de Laurent Galéa et d'Anastasie Allaz Sallaville de Laval, épouse Galéa.

Je supplie votre Excellence de me dire, dans le plus bref délai, toutes les démarches que je dois faire pour que cet enfant soit légitimé le plus promptement possible d'après nos lois Anglaises.

En attendant une solution positive à ma demande, je prie, &c.

(Signé) LAURENT GALEA, *Sujet Britannique.*

P.S.—Je joins à ma lettre la déclaration formelle de ma femme, dans laquelle elle reconnaît légitimement mon fils. Voici mon adresse [written in Russian].

Inclosure 2.

Declaration.

L'an mil huit cent soixante-deux, le $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁵/₇ du mois de Novembre.

Je soussigné, épouse Galéa, née Anastasie Allaz Sallaville de Laval, actuellement à Kiew, déclare vouloir reconnaître comme mon fils légitime le fils de mon mari sous les noms de Paul Laurent Galéa. Et je m'engage à l'élever comme mon fils pendant toute ma vie.

(Signé) ANASTASIE GALEA, *Sujet Britannique.*

* *Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 5, 1863.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 4th ultimo, inclosing a letter from M. Laurent Galéa, a British subject, requesting to be informed what steps he can take towards legitimizing a natural child.

I am to state to you in reply that his Lordship having consulted Her Majesty's Advocate-General, that officer reports that he is unable to point out any process by which the child of M. Laurent Galéa can be legitimized in England, though possibly there may be less difficulty in procuring his legitimization in Russia, where M. Galéa appears to be domiciled.

The doctrines of the civil and canon law which are admitted into the laws of some countries, as to adoption and legitimacy, are unknown to the law of England.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(55.) This despatch related to parties in no way connected with the Oakleys, and the names of the parties on whose behalf the inquiry was made, and the correspondence, are in the archives at Odessa, to which Mr. Wilkins had access. I do not remember the names of the parties, but one of them (the female I think) was a Swiss, and the other a naturalized British subject. I can trace the parties if necessary. It is very extraordinary if Mr. Wilkins did not read the correspondence in the archives at Odessa before attempting to connect this case with that of the Oakleys.

On the 9th November, a male child by the same parents is registered as born on the 10th October, forty-seven days after the birth of the first.

A fee of 2s. 6d. for each register is returned to Government.

I did not see Mr. Oakley, who I was told was temporarily engaged at a great distance from Odessa ⁽⁵⁶⁾.

Fees.

The sixth case is a question (arising out of the circumstances brought to light by the above-mentioned cases) as to the levy of the fees at the Consulate.

"The fees are the property of Her Majesty's Government; and Consular officers charged with the duty of levying this revenue are not empowered to dispense with the payment of them, except under express instructions from the Secretary of State."*

I respectfully submit to your Lordship that the question as to whether all the fees were levied that should have been levied, and placed to the account of Her Majesty's Government, can be answered only by inference, and not by direct proof ⁽⁵⁷⁾.

At the port of Odessa the British population is small, and the fees paid by them annually would be insignificant in amount.

The chief source of income from fees is in connection with the British merchant shipping trading with that port.

The majority of the fees leviable on the ships would depend on local regulations, the regulations of the ports they may touch at on their voyage, and on duties to be performed by the Consul when required by the parties interested.

Much would depend on the mode of conducting the Consular business, on the Consul's advice, and the confidence placed in him.

There are, no doubt, instances in the course of several years, in which sums have been received, and not credited to the Government; but these amounts have been so insignificant that the omission can scarcely be attributed to anything more than negligence.

As the further instructions I have this day received from your Lordship involve the question of fees, I submit, with great respect, that a full consideration of it would be better embodied in my reply to those instructions.

Mr. Grenville-Murray does not appear to have returned fees for passports or marriages ⁽⁵⁸⁾.

Without entering into the probable reasons for the discrepancy here, I respectfully call your Lordship's attention to the returns of fees from the Consulate at Odessa to the Foreign Office, for the following periods:—

	£	s.	d.	
By Consul-General Mathew in 1857	389	0	0	(⁵⁹)
By Consul-General Grenville-Murray, from 1st July to 31st December, 1859 .	80	13	9	
" " " in year 1860	104	15	6	
" " " " 1861	44	0	6	
" " " " 1862	13	12	6	
" " " " 1863	12	18	6	
" " " " 1864	44	7	6	
" " " " 1865	33	5	6	
" " " from 1st January to 30th September, 1866	14	18	0	
	£348	11	9	
Being an average of less than 50 <i>l.</i> a-year.				
By Acting Consuls-General, from 1st October to 31st December, 1866 ..	21	2	6	
By Acting Consul-General Stevens, from 1st January to 30th September, 1867	205	10	6	(⁶⁰)

As from matters arising incidentally from my instructions, it will be my duty to add a supplementary Report,† I now simply, with great respect, submit these results of my inquiry to your Lordship, with an expression of regret if any unseemly delay has occurred.

I have endeavoured to be impartial, although I may have erred in detail ⁽⁶¹⁾.

I trust your Lordship will afford me an opportunity of making a proper acknowledgment of any errors into which I may have fallen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. EDWARD WILKINS.

* No. 115, page 137.

† This Report did not relate to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Mr. Grenville-Murray's Replies.

(56.) But surely it was the duty of Mr. Wilkins, on a charge of conspiracy implicating Mr. Oakley and myself, as well as Rouville, who makes the charge as an accomplice, to have taken some means of ascertaining what Mr. Oakley had to say on the subject.

(57.) Two questions are here blended in one—

1st. Whether all the fees have been levied that should have been levied.

2nd. Whether all the fees levied have been placed to the account of Her Majesty's Government.

I do not know whether Mr. Wilkins proposes to answer both these questions by inference.

(58.) I never received any fees for passports or marriages. There is no direction in the Consular Fee Table to take fees for either. I have to refer to my despatches to Lord Stanley of the 21st February and 4th of March, 1867,* on this subject.

(59.) I believe that Mr. Consul-General Mathew issued three separate certificates to each ship leaving Odessa. One was of health, one of clearance, and one of origin. The shipmasters were obliged to take certificates from the Russian authorities, and the Turkish Consul and I found that certificates from the British Consul were not necessary, and therefore did not require them to be taken. The cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece made a great difference in the amount of fees received at the British Consulate.

(60.) I have no doubt that if I am furnished with a list of the fees levied by Mr. Stevens I shall be able to show that a large portion of those fees were for certificates not required by the ships sailing from Odessa. Repeated complaints have come to my knowledge of the manner and extent to which Mr. Stevens has interfered with the shipowners, especially from the agent of Lloyd's at Odessa.

Unless by accidental omission, I have accounted for every fee received at the Consulate, and I have no doubt that my clerk honestly accounted to me for all the fees which came into his hands.

(61.) I trust I have made it abundantly clear that Mr. Wilkins has not been impartial.

* Nos. 62 and 67.

Count Maffei to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 6.)

My Lord,

28, *Davies Street, Berkeley Square, le 6 Mai, 1868.*

LES frères Tubino, sujets Italiens à Berdiansk, viennent de m'adresser un Mémoire dans lequel ils exposent les faits suivants :—

Ces deux messieurs concluaient, il y a quelque temps, avec la veuve Tagliaferro, sujette Anglaise, l'achat d'une propriété appartenant aux fils mineurs de cette dernière, pour le prix de 11,500 roubles d'argent.

Pour effectuer le paiement à la veuve susnommée, il était nécessaire de faire légaliser les documents relatifs à ce contrat à Odessa, soit par les autorités Russes que par le Consul-Général d'Angleterre en cette ville, ce qui eut lieu en effet.

Cependant, dans l'intervalle, le correspondant des frères Tubino à Kertch, où devait se faire le transfert de la propriété en question, porta à leur connaissance que le certificat donné à la veuve Tagliaferro par le Consul Anglais, Mr. Murray, n'était pas en règle. Ce document fut par conséquent renvoyé à Odessa, où, en l'absence de Mr. Murray, il fut présenté à Mr. Stevens, qui en remplissait les fonctions, et celui-ci, après en avoir pris connaissance, le déclara faux, et le regarda comme une fraude arrangée avec Madame Tagliaferro, afin d'en avoir une rémunération pécuniaire—fraude qui aurait facilement réussi si on avait pu faire ajouter à ce certificat la légalisation d'une autorité quelconque à Odessa.*

Tels sont les faits contenus dans le Mémoire que je reçois de Berdiansk, et au sujet desquels le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine doit avoir reçu des communications, par un rapport que le gérant du Consulat Britannique, Mr. Stevens, lui aurait adressé. En cet état de choses, les frères Tubino demandent instamment que le contrat passé entre eux et la veuve Tagliaferro soit légalisé au Consulat d'Angleterre à Odessa, afin qu'il puisse recevoir son entière application; les acheteurs ayant, pour ce qui les concerne, déclaré qu'ils étaient prêts à opérer le paiement de la somme convenue à la personne qui leur sera dûment indiquée.

J'ai par conséquent l'honneur de recourir à votre Seigneurie pour qu'elle veuille bien interposer ses bons offices, dans le but de mettre fin aux tergiversations opposées par la veuve Tagliaferro, pour se soustraire aux obligations provenant du contrat qu'elle a signé avec les deux sujets Italiens en question.

Je ne doute pas que votre Seigneurie voudra bien, avec sa courtoisie habituelle, déférer à la demande que j'ai l'honneur de lui exprimer; et en la remerciant d'avance, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) A. MAFFEI.

No. 176.

!! *Lord Stanley to Count Maffei.*

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 6th instant, requesting that Her Majesty's Government will intervene in order to procure a settlement of a question between Messrs. Tubino, Italian subjects of Berdiansk, and Madame Tagliaferro, a British subject recently residing at Odessa, relating to the sale of a property by that lady to those gentlemen; a matter in which Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa has been mixed up.

I have to state to you, in reply, that an inquiry has been instituted, and is still going on, which has reference to Consular proceedings at Odessa in that affair; but I regret that I am not yet in a position to inform you whether I can properly interfere in the case.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

* See Inclosure 32 in No. 156; and page 176.

No. 177.

Mr. James Murray to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you herewith copies of such of the papers requested in your letter of the 5th instant* as can properly be given to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

List of Papers accompanying preceding Despatch.

1. 1866. Odessa, October.—Copy of certificate issued to Madame Tagliaferro in Russian, empowering her to sell the property of her children at Berdiansk. (Inclosure No. 7 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 184.)

2. 1866. 10th October.—Copy of copy in Russian. Power of Attorney. Madame Tagliaferro to Luca Carburì. (Inclosure 11 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 185.)

3. 1866. October. Copy of copy of paper No. 1 in this List. (No. 19 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 198.)

4. 1864. Kertch, Yenikale; received June 4.—Copy of originals in Russian of two petitions of Madame Tagliaferro to the Tribunal at Kertch, to be put in possession of certain property at Berdiansk described as belonging to her children. (No. 36 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 217.)

Italian.

5. 1866. Berdiansk, $\frac{4}{16}$ th October, with addition, 29th October. Copy original contract, made by Mr. Luca Carburì for Madame Tagliaferro, with Messrs. Tubino. (No. 10 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 184.)

6. 1867. London, 18th February.—Copy original. Madame Tagliaferro to Mr. Tubino. (No. 26 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 200.)

7. 1867. Naples, 10th March.—Copy original. Mr. Luca Carburì to Messrs. Tubino. (No. 28 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 202.)

8. 1867. Berdiansk, $\frac{16}{28}$ th February.—Copy original. Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalowich. (No. 32 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 212.)

9. 1867. London, 29th February.—Copy original. Telegram. Madame Tagliaferro to Messrs. Tubino. (Inclosure in inclosure No. 27 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 201.)

10. 1867. 22nd August.—Mr. Stevens to Mr. Tubino, and 28th August, Mr. Tubino to Mr. Stevens. (Inclosure 33 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 213.)

11. 1866. Berdiansk, $\frac{8}{20}$ th October.—Copy of copy. Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalowich. (Translation No. 12 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 185.)

12. 1866. 22nd October.—Copy of copy. Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalowich. (Translation 22 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 199.)

13. 1866. 20th November.—Copy of copy. Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalowich. (Translation 23 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 199.)

14. 1866. 26th November.—Copy of copy. Messrs. Raffalowich to Messrs. Tubino. (Translation 24 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 200.)

15. 1867. 22nd February. Copy of copy. Messrs. Tubino to Messrs. Raffalowich. (No. 27 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, page 201.)

16, 17. Copy of Maltese documents. (Nos. 16 and 17 in Mr. Wilkins' Report, pages 187 and 195.)

No. 178.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1868.

I HAVE received your letter of the 5th instant, giving such explanations as you had to offer on the Report made to me by Mr. Wilkins of his investigation into your proceedings as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, and I regret to state that they in no way tend to remove the impression which caused me to inform you on the 2nd, 22nd, and 30th of March, 1867, and on the 5th, 25th, and 26th of April, 1867, that your previous explanations, as given in your letters of the 21st of February, the 4th, 19th, and 26th of March, and the 8th and 17th of April, 1867, were unsatisfactory.

On the contrary, I am now compelled to come to the painful conclusion that your

* No. 174.

statements cannot be received as trustworthy; that your conduct has been marked by a habitual disregard of duty; and that your attempt to justify your proceedings shows that you have misused the powers intrusted to you by Her Majesty's Commission.

I have therefore recommended to the Queen that your Commission as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa be cancelled, and it is hereby cancelled accordingly.

I do not think it needful to enter into any great detail as regards your present explanations; but I must observe that you wholly misunderstand or misrepresent the question of the investigation which, as Secretary of State, I made into your conduct when you talk of it as a matter of or for judicial inquiry. It is true that the legality of your acts has been called in question, and that it was found necessary, in the interest of innocent persons who had been led into error by your ignorance or negligence, to pass an Act of Parliament in order to prevent them from suffering by your misconduct; but the investigation which I desired Mr. Wilkins to make at Odessa was for the purpose of enabling me to judge whether it was consistent with my duty to allow you to continue to hold office under the Crown.

Amongst other things I notice your observations on the matter of passports given to the Messrs. Vucina, who, not being British subjects, were not entitled to them. Evidence that you had taken pains to ascertain that they were British subjects is wholly wanting; and, on the contrary, while you knew they belonged to an Ionian firm, you say that "if any member of that firm had stated to you that he was a British subject you would have implicitly believed him." It does not appear, however, that such a statement was made, and whether it was or was not, your attempted justification would only show that it would not be safe to intrust to you the power of granting passports.

I also find the following statement made by you:—"When I went to Odessa I was not furnished with the Acts of the 6 & 7 Will. IV, cap. 85, and 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68; nor was my attention in any way directed to them."* Whereas, when you went to Odessa, the following despatch was addressed to you by the Earl of Malmesbury:†—"Foreign Office, August 7, 1858; No. 2.—Sir,—I transmit to you herewith my warrant authorizing you to solemnize and register marriages under the provisions of the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68, and for instructions for your guidance in those matters I have to refer you to the despatch which accompanied the warrant addressed to your predecessor on the 6th January, 1857;"—and that despatch you acknowledged in the following terms:‡—"Her Majesty's Consulate-General, Odessa, September 20, 1858.—My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch No. 2, authorizing me to solemnize and register marriages."

That you failed to pay proper attention to the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68 (which I find, on inquiry of Mr. Wilkins, is extant in the archives of your Consulate), or to obey its provisions, is abundantly clear; and it is equally undoubted that it would not be proper to entrust you any longer with the power of acting officially under this law. If you had not the statute to refer to, it was most improper to act in ignorance of its provisions and without attempting to obtain a copy for your guidance.

I likewise see that you say, as regards the registration of marriages, "I never received any book from the Registrar-General;" whereas the fact of a Register Book having been furnished to your Consulate, with instructions for its use, is undoubted, and is evidenced by a letter which you addressed, on the 9th February, 1861, to Lord John Russell, in the following terms:—"My Lord,—I have the honour to inclose herewith a despatch, under flying seal, addressed to the Registrar-General containing a certified return of marriages solemnized at this Consulate-General during the years 1858, 1859, and 1860, copied on the usual printed forms."

You further say, as regards fees:—"I never received any fees for passports or marriages. There is no direction in the Consular Fee Table to take fees for either." Whereas in Part 2 of the Table of Fees authorized by the Order in Council of the 1st of May, 1855, there is the following direction:—"For annexing the seal of office and signature to any document not mentioned in or otherwise provided for by this Table, 5s."; and in the Act 12 & 13 Vict., cap. 68, to which your attention was particularly directed, and which direction you duly acknowledged to have received, the amount of fees to be taken in cases of marriage is stated in explicit detail.

Your statement as regards fees is, therefore, untrustworthy; and it appears by your own admission that, at least, you have failed to levy fees legally due to Her Majesty's Government, and that you have thus improperly diminished the receipts of Her Majesty's Exchequer.

I forbear to refer to other and serious charges which have been brought against you, and in which I regret to observe that you have failed to supply satisfactory explanation.

* Observation 38, page 259.

† No. 2.

‡ No. 3.

The particular points to which I have confined myself abundantly show, however, that you cannot any longer be entrusted with the exercise of official authority.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 179.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 29.)

My Lord,

London, May 29, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of yesterday's date; and whilst reserving my reply for a few hours, I respectfully protest against and deny the right of Her Majesty's Secretary of State to cancel Her Majesty's Commission to a public servant without a proper investigation, conducted with appropriate solemnity by competent and not interested persons, in the presence of the accused.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 180.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

London, May 29, 1868.

THE charges specifically mentioned in your Lordship's despatch of the 28th instant, on which your Lordship has recommended to the Queen that my Commission as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa should be cancelled, appear to be three in number :—

1. The matter of the passports given to Messrs. Vucina;
2. The matter of the fees payable at Odessa;
3. The matter of the marriages.

With respect to the passports, I have to observe that I did not issue the passports; they were issued by Mr. Perkins, whom I appointed to act as Consul-General in my absence. I cannot comprehend how it is possible that any irregularity into which he may have fallen furnishes ground for the cancellation of my Commission.

With reference to the fees payable at Odessa, I have respectfully to observe that I have faithfully accounted for all fees which, in the exercise of my judgment, I considered I was entitled to claim, or which were specifically mentioned in the Consular Fee Table.

Fees on passports or marriages are not specifically mentioned in this Table; and I (erroneously, as it now appears) did not think that the general clause at the end of the Fee Table was intended to apply to passports or marriages. Most of the passports were granted to distressed British seamen, and must have been re-charged to the Board of Trade; or to discharged navigators, and others in very humble circumstances, and quite unable to pay the fee which I now understand was intended to be made payable.

The marriages were generally of persons in very humble circumstances. I would observe, further, that, to the best of my recollection, I sent every year to the Foreign Office a full detailed account of every fee received by me. In that account there was no fee entered for marriages or passports, yet no observation was made to me on this absence of passport or marriage fees during the whole term of my more than eight years' residence at Odessa.

On the subject of the marriages, I have to express my regret that in replying to the Report of Mr. Wilkins, I stated that my attention had not been directed to the Acts 6 and 7 Wm. IV, cap. 83, and 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 68. My statement was made, according to the best of my recollection, at the time, and without access to my papers.

When I went to Odessa I found that the registration of marriages was under the superintendence of the Vice-Consul who had filled that office when my predecessor was Consul-General; and the registration remained under his charge until the abolition of his office in 1861.

Afterwards, I continued the registration according to the precedents and in the forms used by the Vice-Consul; and I had entirely forgotten that I had received from Lord Malmesbury, ten years ago, the despatch of which a copy is set out in a despatch of your Lordship. I respectfully repeat my assertion that I never received any book from the Registrar-General.* My despatch to Lord Russell of the 9th of February, 1861, to which

* See No. 47, November 27, 1866.

your Lordship refers, is in no respect inconsistent with my statement to your Lordship. It refers to a certified return of marriages solemnized at Odessa during the years 1858, 1859, and 1860, "copied on the usual printed forms."

These returns made during the existence of the Vice-Consulate were on separate printed forms which were in use in the office; and I never was furnished with any Marriage Register Books, as mentioned in the Act of Parliament.*

I have thus shown that of the three reasons assigned by your Lordship:—

The passports of Messrs. Vucina were not issued by me, but in my absence;

That the non-claiming of the fees was owing to their not being specifically stated in the Table of Fees; and that although the fact of their not being levied was apparent from an inspection of my annual returns, no observation was made to me thereon during more than eight years;

That in the matter of marriages I followed the practice established by my predecessor in that department, and used the forms previously in use in the office.

I feel confident that your Lordship cannot, after this explanation, consider the grounds sufficient to justify the dismissal of an officer who has served seventeen years; and I most solemnly call upon your Lordship to recall the cancellation of my Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 181.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1868.

I HAVE received your two letters of the 29th ultimo; in the first of which you protest against and deny the right of Her Majesty's Secretary of State to cancel Her Majesty's Commission to a public servant without, as you allege, a proper and impartial investigation into his conduct; and in the second you state your reasons for contesting my decision to advise Her Majesty to cancel your Commission.

I have to inform you, in reply, that no effect will be given to your protest against the cancellation of Her Majesty's Commission; and that the decision which I have arrived at in your case has been come to after mature consideration, and is final.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 182.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 13.)

My Lord,

London, July 13, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's note of the 9th instant, kindly acceding to my request that my private letter of the 30th ultimo might be erased from the records of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to add that your Lordship having granted me permission to make a further statement, that statement will be of a character to satisfy your Lordship upon the clearest evidence, supported by witnesses of unquestionable veracity from Odessa and other places, that the Law Officers of the Crown have hitherto advised your Lordship upon an imperfect knowledge of facts, and I therefore appeal to your Lordship's sense of right to suspend the cancellation of my Commission till my statement is fully before you, and until my witnesses can arrive in London.

I shall immediately telegraph to Odessa, requesting them to lose no time in coming to England; and I shall have the honour to transmit their telegrams in reply to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

* See No. 47, November 27, 1866.

No. 183.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 17, 1868.

I HAVE received your letter of the 13th instant: but I see thereby that you mistake the nature of the permission which I gave you to make a further statement in regard to your case. When I saw you at this Office on the 27th ultimo,* I told you distinctly that, with respect to your appointment at Odessa, the decision to cancel it was final, and that the matter was at end. But I added, that if you had anything to say in defence or in palliation of your conduct, such statement would be received and would be considered with reference to the possibility of your being re-employed under the Crown.

If you have any such statement to make it shall be put on record for what it may be worth; but you must understand that I cannot re-open the question of your proceedings as Consul-General at Odessa, or carry on any further correspondence in relation thereto.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 184.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 22.)

My Lord,

London, July 21, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant, intimating to me that any statement I might have to make to your Lordship would be considered with reference to the possibility of my being re-employed under the Crown.

In reply, I have the honour to state, with reference to the three charges brought against me—

That the passports alleged to have been improperly issued to Messrs. Vucina were not issued by me,† but were issued after my departure from Odessa upon leave of absence in pursuance of the general regulations with reference to the issue of passports with which Mr. Perkins was well acquainted.

With respect to the second of the charges brought against me, I have the honour to submit—

That I did not charge fees upon passports or marriages because no such fees are specifically mentioned in the Fee Table issued by the Foreign Office, and contained in the official instructions for the guidance of Consuls, and that I honestly and *bonâ fide* considered the general clause at the end of the Fee Table did not apply to passports, seeing that a fee of 5s. could not, in fact, be levied from paupers and distressed seamen by whom they were chiefly required;‡ and although the fact of my not having levied such fees was shown to the Foreign Office by my quarterly and yearly accounts of fees, which I faithfully rendered during many years, yet no observation was ever made to me intimating that I was acting erroneously in not enforcing the payment of these fees. I acted with perfect good faith to the best of my ability.

With reference to the third charge against me, arising out of marriages solemnized at Odessa, I have the honour to state that the despatch of Lord Malmesbury of August 7, 1858,§ transmitting his Lordship's warrant authorizing me to solemnize and register

* *Memorandum by Lord Stanley.*

Mr. Grenville-Murray came to see Lord Stanley to-day in great distress at his dismissal from the Consulate-General at Odessa. He made no imputation of unfairness as regards the inquiry which had taken place; but he asserted that he had believed it to be only a preliminary investigation, and added that if he had known otherwise, he should have availed himself of the permission given him to be present on the spot, as he had been placed at a disadvantage by not being able to refer to his own papers and the archives of the Consulate-General. He went over and defended himself from the charges brought against him, and begged hard that the cancellation of his appointment might be withdrawn.

Lord Stanley had told him that all possible means had been taken to ensure strict impartiality, and to give him a fair hearing; and that the Law Officers of the Crown had been consulted at every step. He said that, as regarded Odessa, the decision must be regarded as final and the matter at an end; but that if Mr. Murray chose to put in writing the statements he had made during the interview,|| or any other arguments which he might wish to adduce in defence or in palliation of his conduct, they should receive full consideration as bearing upon the question whether it would be possible at any time to offer him re-employment in the service of the Crown.

(Signed) STANLEY.

Foreign Office, June 27, 1868.

† See Nos. 63 and 67; Inclosure 1 in No. 156, page 180.

‡ See No. 65.

§ No. 2.

|| Withdrawn at Mr. Grenville-Murray's request: see No. 182.

marriages under the provisions of the Act 12 and 13 Vict., cap. 78, and referring me to a despatch addressed to my predecessor of the 6th January, 1857, must have reached Odessa some time previous to my arrival there, and been opened by the Vice-Consul, then acting as Consul-General. No doubt the answer to that despatch was drafted by him, and presented to me for signature immediately on my arrival, it being dated the 20th of September, on the evening of which day I arrived at Odessa.*

I found that the Vice-Consul had been always in charge of the arrangements connected with marriages, and he remained in charge of that Department of the Office during the whole time of his continuance at Odessa until 1861, when his office was abolished.

After his removal I endeavoured to the best of my ability to follow most carefully the forms used by him, and I believe I did so. I was, however, obliged to obtain the assistance of a clerk, to whom I intrusted the formal details of filling up and dating notices of marriages and licenses, and the registration of them.†

If there has been any mistake in filling up the forms it must have been made inadvertently by the clerk and have escaped my notice, though I cannot understand how such a mistake could have occurred.

I, myself, personally attended the celebration of every marriage performed while I was at Odessa, and I can most conscientiously declare that they were conducted with great solemnity and decorum.

I cannot believe that any case occurred during the time I was Consul-General of license having been granted by me, or a marriage celebrated, until after due notice of the intention of the parties to be married; and your Lordship will observe that in no single instance have the parties entering into the marriage contract been examined as to the interval between the notice, granting the license, and the celebration of the marriage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 185.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 27.)

My Lord,

London, July 27, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to appeal to your Lordship's kindness to inform me whether the statement contained in my despatch of the 21st instant to your Lordship is satisfactory, and, if not, to entreat that your Lordship will be mercifully pleased to suffer me to consult with some gentleman in the Foreign Office as to how my statement may be amended, in order that I may obtain some re-employment under your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 186.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

London, July 30, 1868.

I RESPECTFULLY entreat your Lordship to consider, with reference to my case, that, in so far as my judgment and that of my friends can apply to it, no charge whatsoever has been substantiated against me, and I ask your Lordship, as a simple question of right and justice, to give me a chance of defending myself.

Irrespective of the truth or falsehood of any of the allegations made against me, I venture respectfully to submit that they have never been fairly examined.

I feel perfectly convinced that your Lordship's sense of justice is too clear and strong to allow an unoffending man to be longer injured by *ex parte* statements.

Far from having had every chance of explaining my case, as your Lordship has been induced to believe, I cannot help feeling that every chance has been denied me. In plain truth my case has only been examined on one side.

None of the parties principally interested have been asked a single question; none of my witnesses have been heard; no charge whatever against me has been substantiated. Of the numerous accusations brought forward all have been dropped but three.

I am aware that the three cases remaining have been represented to your Lordship as serious, and that an opinion obtained from the Law Officers of the Crown upon a statement I have never seen would seem to confirm that representation. But the facts in no way warrant it, for of those three cases I have plainly shown two to be groundless, and the third to rest on the assumption that the dates inserted by my clerk in the notice of

* See No. 3.

† See No. 47, November 27, 1866.

marriage, the license to marry, and the register of marriage, accurately state the dates when they were respectively given and recorded, and I have a firm conviction that the dates are erroneously given, and that the irregularities are apparent, and not real.

Moreover, these are only three of numerous charges against me which have all been dropped, and which were all brought forward by the same person, namely, Mr. Stevens, a Levantine, of Irish origin, while acting as Consul-General at Odessa in my place.

I have been informed that those charges have prejudiced my case, but surely they ought in justice to have told against my accuser, and not against me.*

My papers, public and private, for eight years, were suddenly seized by Mr. Stevens.†

* See page 80.

† *Lord Stanley to Consul-General Stevens.*

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 21, 1866.*
I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge your telegraphic despatch of the 19th instant, stating that Mr. Perkins awaited orders from this Office before making over to you the archives of Her Majesty's Consulate at Odessa; and I am to state to you that by Lord Stanley's direction I addressed to you this day a telegram in the following words:—

"Tell Mr. Perkins that he must give up archives immediately, and show him this telegram."

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY.

INVENTORY of the Archives of Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General at Odessa, made out and signed in quadruplicate on delivery by Mr. Acting Consul-General Perkins to Mr. Acting Consul-General Stevens, on the 23rd and 27th December, 1866.

CURRENT ARCHIVES TRANSFERRED ON 23RD DECEMBER.

Description.

Remarks by Mr. Stevens on reception.

Register of births, marriages, and deaths.

Register of passports.

Register of British ships.

Register of protests.

Fee Book, with 16*l.* 13*s.*, being fees taken between 4th October and 22nd December, 1866.

Register of seamen, c. 19.

Register seamen's subsistence book, c. 20.

Register of despatches to Foreign Office and Home Departments.

Register of correspondence to Ambassadors and Consuls.

Register of correspondence. Private persons on public business.

Register of correspondence to local authorities.

Order of arrest and release book.

Board of Trade forms, c. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25.

Ditto ditto, not in use.

An envelope with sundry papers

One book-cover containing despatches from Foreign Office and Home authorities.

One book-cover containing despatches from Ambassadors and Consuls.

One book-cover containing letters from private persons on public business.

One book-cover containing letters from local authorities.

Sundry documents relating to seamen.

Papers regarding Naval Court barque "Freedom."

Ditto ditto "Scotia's Queen."

Papers regarding the examination of George Gray.

Sundry documents.

Book of Instructions to Consuls, merchant-ships, and seamen.

General Instructions.

Last entry being numbered 272. Passport granted favour M. Wilton.

Last entry made on 21st December, 1866, being steam ship "Una."

Last entry 643, dated 19th December, 1866.

Last entry being No. 18, 30th December, 1862.

Last entry being that of Robert Parker, No. 8 of 1864. Commencing 23rd February, 1865, to Lord Russell, No. 15, and ending on 8th November, 1866, to Lord Stanley, No. 44; and commencing at the other end with despatch to Foreign Office, No. 1, of 1861, and ending with despatch, marked Separate, addressed to Lord Russell by Mr. Grenville-Murray while in England, on 1st October, 1861, with intervening blanks; after which, recommencing with No. 50 of 15th November, 1861, to Earl Russell, and finishing with No. 18, to Lord Russell, of 12th June, 1862.

Commencing on 27th February, 1866, and ending 29th November, 1866.

Commencing 19th April, 1866, and ending 14th of December, 1866.

Commencing 27th March, 1866, and ending 23rd of December, 1866.

Last entry being dated 8th December, 1866, for release of P. Lund and M. Collins.

Old duplicate receipts for postages, and five receipts regarding current postage account.

Last instruction. Inclosure 31 in General Instructions, dated 16th October, 1855, regarding lighthouses, &c.

By mixing them up unintelligibly together, by adding the end of one case to the beginning of another, by treating waste papers as official documents wanting in formality, and by unscrupulously making use of other means equally unjustifiable, Mr. Stevens, who has never been in England, whose mind and education are entirely Levantine, and who cannot understand the shame attaching to such proceedings in the minds of English gentlemen, has fabricated charges against me merely with a view of retaining my place, which was worth 800*l.* a year to him as long as he could invent an excuse for keeping it.

He was, as the archives in the Foreign Office will confirm to your Lordship, deeply and discredibly indebted in Persia: he is now deeply and discredibly indebted to Odessa.

Description.

Remarks by Mr. Stevens on reception.

Two seals.

One flag.

Three hundred silver-roubles (300 r.s.), being for deposits made to face a Custom-house or port fine for throwing-out ballast in the roadstead of Odessa, by Salvatore Farrugia, master of the Maltese ship "Fratelli Apap," by F. Ellal, master of the Maltese ship "Undecimus," by M. Johnson, master of the British barque "Mary Ann," of Sunderland, each 100 roubles.

ARCHIVES TRANSFERRED ON 27TH DECEMBER.

Box No. 1.

XIX
XX
XXI
XXII
XXIII
XXIV
XXV
XXVI
XXVII
XXVIII
XXIX
XXX
XXXI
XXXII

Fourteen bound books numbered on the back, as per margin, containing miscellaneous papers and documents.

Seventeen packets bound with string, labelled as follows:—

- No. 1. Personal cases, 1819 to 1827.
- No. 2. Ditto 1828 to 1838.
- No. 3. Ditto 1839 to 1842.
- No. 4. Ditto 1843 to 1854.
- No. 5. Shipping business, 1819 to 1829.
- No. 6. Ditto 1830 to 1837.
- No. 7. Ditto 1838 to 1844.
- No. 8. Ditto 1845 to 1851.
- No. 9. Ditto 1852 to 1854.
- No. 10. Prices current of grain, 1814 to 1852.
- No. 11. Lloyd's.
- No. 12. Notices to mariners.
- No. 13. Passports and certificates.
- No. 14. Quarantine instructions.
- No. 16. Russian army.
- No. 20. Prices current of grain and produce, 1857 to 1861.
- (No number.) Ships' clearances.
- Income Tax Act, June 22, 1842.
- Despatch, August 1, 1842, No. 6 of General Instructions.
- Hospital Book, 1860, 1861, 1862.
- A piece of red cloth inclosing four numbers of a musical newspaper of Milan.

Box No. 2.

3 Books marked registers.

1 Register of certificates, crews of vessels, &c.

7 Registers of shipping.

First, beginning June 18, 1819, ending November $\frac{15}{27}$, 1832.

Second, beginning January 6, 1833, ending ^{December 27} January 8, 1849.

Third, beginning January $\frac{8}{20}$, 1849, ending March 11, 1859.

Though his income as Vice-Consul is so small, he owes nearly 3,000*l.* to one individual who has recently become bankrupt, and proceedings are now taking against him by the creditors of the estate, so that his affairs are likely shortly to become public.

I feel compelled to state these facts, but I do so only in self-defence, and the antecedents of Mr. Stevens will fully bear out all that I have said of him.

Now this person has been my sole accuser, and I appeal to your Lordship or to any one who has knowledge of the Levantine character, to protect me against such cruelty.

The facts which I have here stated would appear incredible of a British officer, but I supplicate your Lordship to refer to any gentleman who has served in the Levant as to whether they are incredible of a born and bred Levantine who has never been in England, and whose whole life and education is a series of petty intrigues, of which he is unable to comprehend the improbity.*

It is very far from my wish to bring any charge whatever against individuals. I can honestly say that I have no ill-will towards those who have brought such heavy sorrow

<i>Description.</i>	<i>Remarks by Mr. Stevens on reception.</i>
1 Register of passports. 4 Copy-books marked "British trade." 1 Press copy-book of despatches to Foreign Office and Home authorities. 1 Copy-book "Consular General Office." 1 Copy-book correspondence in Russia.	Beginning July 22, 1814, ending March $\frac{3}{18}$, 1828. Beginning January 3, 1862, ending February 15, 1865. Beginning May 7, 1819, ending April 22, 1824. Beginning September 27, 1822, ending October 24, no year.
1 Day-book 1864. 1 Book certificates of discharge, c. 11. 18 Copy-books correspondence. Articles of ship "Harbinger." 1 Book cover marked "Local authorities." 1 Book cover marked "Despatches to and from Consuls." 1 Book cover marked "Legal affairs." 1 Book cover marked "Foreign Office." 1 Sealed enveloped marked "Last will and testament of Mrs. Emma Dine, August 29, 1855."	
Box No. 3.	
11 Volumes Hertslet's Commercial Treaties. 4 Volumes Mercantile Navy List, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864. 1 Volume Mercantile Navy List and Maritime Directory. 6 Volumes Commercial Reports. 1 Volume Report Official Salaries. 4 Pamphlets Reports of the Postmaster-General. 1 Volume Trade Acts. 1 Volume Abstract of Reports on the trades of various countries and places for the years 1857, 1858, 1859. 5 Foreign Office Lists. Seamen's wages account book.	Delivered by JAMES PERKINS. Received by GEO. ALEX. STEVENS. <i>Acting Consul-General.</i>

* *Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received June 23.)*

(Extract.)

Odessa, June 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the inclosed Reports which have just reached me in duplicate from Mr. George Alexander Stevens, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Kherson.

Upon the marked ability, the great labour, and the zealous attention to business evident in these Reports, I feel that there is no need to comment; these most able papers will speak for themselves. But it is my bounden and pleasurable duty to bring Mr. Stevens' general talents and qualifications particularly under your Lordship's notice.

Mr. Stevens has now served Her Majesty's Government nearly four years under my supervision, and he obtained as high a character with my predecessor, Mr. Consul-General Mathew, as he has justly earned from me.

Not only has Mr. Stevens succeeded under great disadvantages in promoting a new trade with England, and giving well-paid employment to many Englishmen, but I am credibly assured that there is no recent improvement in his district of any kind with which his name has not been usefully and honourably connected.

Mr. Stevens has anxiously and scrupulously performed his Consular duties, and he has gained the respect and regard of all who know him, both Russians and English.

Both the Governor and Vice-Governor of Kherson have been changed since his appointment, but all the Local Authorities have always concurred in their high opinion of Mr. Stevens, and have acknowledged that they were deeply indebted to him for many valuable suggestions, and for unfailing courtesy and kindness.

Mr. Stevens' Reports to this Office have been characterized by ability of the highest kind. He has never

upon me. But having now disposed of the case of Mr. Stevens, I am bound to say a few words with respect to Mr. Wilkins.

Mr. Wilkins is doubtless a worthy and honourable gentleman, but he was sent out to Russia without any experience whatever of the country; and I put it candidly to your Lordship whether, with the best will possible, he could have done justice to me. As he was personally unknown to your Lordship, and was selected and instructed by Mr. James Murray, I have the honour to add that he could speak none of the local languages, not even French, indispensable for such an inquiry.

He could not understand or interrogate a single witness in the case; and I have evidence that Mr. Stevens browbeat and threatened persons who attended him to speak in my favour without Mr. Wilkins being aware of what transpired in his presence.

All his inquiries were made through Mr. Stevens; and Mr. Stevens, the person primarily interested against me, translated every paper that reached him, and is understood to have revised and conducted the whole of his correspondence.

Mr. Wilkins held no communication with any person who could throw light upon his investigation. He lived in the same house and took his meals with Mr. Stevens. The investigation he was appointed to conduct was, in fact, conducted by Mr. Stevens.

Can an examination under such circumstances have been fair towards me, and one on which to damn the character of a man for life?

The whole affair seems to me so utterly unusual and incomprehensible that, while submitting myself with the most entire respect to your Lordship's supreme authority, I appeal, as from one gentleman to another, to your Lordship's reputation as a Statesman, to your justice as a Judge; I appeal to your personal honour, and solemn sense of your duty towards the service over which you preside, not to condemn me wrongfully to ruin, but to grant me a fair and impartial hearing.

To sum up: of the three charges against me, two rest absolutely upon no foundation at all, and the third rests, as I have stated, upon an assumption; yet for this I am ruined for life.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 187.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

London, August 3, 1868.

AVAILING myself of the permission given to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,* that, if I had anything to say in defence or palliation of my conduct, my statement would be received and considered with reference to the possibility of my being re-employed under the Crown, I ventured, on the 21st ultimo,† to address your Lordship in the sense suggested; and afterwards, in consequence of what fell from your Lordship, when you did me the honour to grant me a personal interview, I applied to the Duke of Buckingham for some employment in the Colonies.

His Grace, however, after consulting others, is of opinion that he cannot give me employment whilst I stand in the position in which your Lordship's recall of my Commission has placed me; and it therefore rests entirely with your Lordship whether I shall be re-employed or not.

I very respectfully request that your Lordship will be pleased to give to my letter of the 21st ultimo the benefit of your most humane and candid consideration; and in the meantime that your Lordship will have the goodness to give the necessary directions that

been at fault for information upon any subject, and his despatches have been always faithful to facts, and clear and comprehensive in the statement of them.

Under such circumstances it is with no ordinary satisfaction that I now desire to give the best support in my power to the application for promotion of a gentleman in every way so deserving of your Lordship's patronage.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Earl Russell.—(Received August 12.)

(Extract.)

Odessa, August 2, 1864.

UNDERSTANDING from Mr. Stevens that he has applied again for promotion to another post, I have much pleasure in recommending his application to your Lordship's favourable consideration. Mr. Stevens has always been most conscientious in the discharge of his duties as Vice-Consul at Kherson, and has long served Her Majesty previously both in Persia and Turkey, before he received his present appointment.

I may receive the pension to which I am entitled after seventeen years' service under the Crown.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 188.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 5.)

My Lord, London, August 5, 1868.

I BEG respectfully to remind your Lordship that, in your despatch of the 17th ultimo,* your Lordship informed me that any statement I might have to make would be received with a view to the possibility of my re-employment.

I have made that statement, but have received no reply; and your Lordship's suggestion that I should apply to the Colonial Minister for employment has been rendered nugatory by the tenor of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of May.†

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 189.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord, 62, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, September 8, 1868.

I HAVE the honour respectfully to remind your Lordship that I have received no answer to my letters of the 21st, 27th, and 30th July, and the 3rd and 5th August;‡ and to entreat your Lordship's just consideration of the cruel and unprecedented hardship of my case.

Should there be any points upon which your Lordship is still unsatisfied, I humbly beg to be made acquainted with them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 190.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord, London, October 6, 1868.

I HAVE the honour respectfully to remind your Lordship that I have received no answer to my letter of the 8th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 191.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir, Foreign Office, October 6, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of this day's date, I am directed by Lord Stanley to state to you that his Lordship must decline further correspondence with you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 192.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord, 62, Brook Street, November 27, 1868.

YOUR Lordship having superseded me in my post as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa, I have been now advised most respectfully to apply to your Lordship for the

* No. 183.

† No. 178.

‡ Nos. 184, 185, 186, 187, and 188.

pension due to me in consideration of my past services of seventeen years; and at the same time to express my trust that I shall be at a future period re-employed in Her Majesty's service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 193.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 10.)

My Lord, 62, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, December 9, 1868.

I SOLEMNLY appeal to your Lordship for justice.

After seventeen years of public service your Lordship's predecessor, Lord Stanley, advised the Queen to cancel my commission.

I implored his Lordship by letter, and personally through my friend Sir Patrick Colquhoun, to give me an opportunity of proving before an impartial tribunal that the charges made against me have been made *ex parte*, and that the cancellation of my commission is attributable to interested motives, and personal hostility towards me at the Foreign Office.

In reply, Lord Stanley informed Sir Patrick Colquhoun that if I thought I had reason to complain of unjust treatment it was open to me to endeavour to obtain either a Parliamentary inquiry into my case, or a re-investigation of it by any future Secretary of State.

Acting, therefore, upon the suggestion of Lord Stanley, I now most respectfully appeal to your Lordship, because a Parliamentary inquiry is practically illusory, by reason of indefinite delays and cost which it entails, and the impossibility of any private individual securing Parliamentary influence and connection at all equal to that at the command of one of the Principal Departments of State, against the opposition with which I should have to contend.

All I entreat is, that the charges made against me may be dealt with in such a way as would approach to the manner in which justice is ordinarily administered in this country.

I respectfully submit that I should be quite satisfied by a reference of the whole case to the prompt and impartial decision of any barrister of established character and eminence, who in my presence, and in that of my legal advisers, would hear the charges against me and my answers to those charges. If your Lordship thought it preferable, the barrister might be one of the Law Officers of the Crown, for I have that confidence in the honour and integrity of the Law Officers, and in the justice of my case, that I should not hesitate to commit my cause to that tribunal.

Lord Stanley, in his letters, stated that he had referred the case to the Law Officers of the Crown, and again, that the result of an inquiry which he had caused to be made, together with all the papers relating thereto, had been submitted by his Lordship to the Law Officers; and his Lordship personally informed me and my friends that he had been guided throughout and at every stage of the proceedings by the Law Officers.

But I respectfully submit that the value of an opinion of the Law Officers must depend entirely on the case laid before them, and as I cannot suppose it possible that Lord Stanley, with the innumerable calls on his time and energies, personally superintended the preparation of the case, it must have been prepared by gentlemen in the Office who are avowedly hostile to me; and a perusal of the case, and the opinion on which Lord Stanley's judgment is founded, having been refused to me, the inference is inevitable that the case was stated to procure an adverse opinion.

If the case had been fully and fairly stated, one cannot conceive of any reason why a perusal of it should have been refused to me, whose prospects in life are utterly blasted by it.

There is an essential difference in a case laid before Counsel *ex parte* for his advice and opinion with reference to future proceedings, and a case the opinion on which is to be treated as final against a party who has not seen the case. Of the former an inspection might not unreasonably be refused; but to decide the fate of a person on a case stated by his opponents is a proceeding which we in this country are not, and I devoutly trust never shall be, familiar.

All I seek is to have my case tried before an impartial Tribunal, where I may meet my accusers face to face, and where the proceedings may be conducted in a manner to give me a fair opportunity of defending myself from false and injurious imputations.

I confidently trust that your Lordship will not sanction proceedings, so opposed to the genius and spirit of the Constitutional Law of England, as to countenance the condemnation of a man without a trial. I wish, therefore, emphatically to state that I have not been tried in any sense in which, in this country, that term is used; and I appeal that proceedings, so essentially penal in their consequences, may be conducted with the solemnity due to the occasion.

All I claim is that I may not be condemned without a fair and impartial trial.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 194.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord, 62, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, London, December 17, 1868.

WITH reference to my letter to your Lordship of the 9th instant, I have the honour respectfully to solicit your Lordship's candid consideration of the following facts:—

I was first employed upon special Diplomatic Service by Lord Palmerston in 1841, and subsequently, at various times, without pay, till 1851,* when I was appointed Unpaid Attaché at Vienna, and afterwards at Hanover.

In 1852 I was made Paid Attaché at Constantinople, and in 1857 transferred to Tehran on a salary of 250*l.* a year, and in 1858 I became Consul-General at Odessa.

I have thus spent the best part of my life and all my private resources in the Public Service. I rely on the career in which I have passed so many years for my maintenance; and I have been most unexpectedly thrown out of it by the recent decision of Lord Stanley.

No accusation or charge whatever was made against me while at my post; but after I had left Odessa on a month's leave, having placed my Consulate in charge of Mr. Perkins, a competent gentleman of trust and experience, he was displaced, without my knowledge, by telegraphic orders, and my private letters, as well as the archives of the Consulate, were taken possession of and detained.

Many injurious imputations were then made against me, which, after the receipt of my answers, were, in most cases, abandoned, leaving only three allegations upon which Lord Stanley's decision was eventually based:—

1. Alleged improper issue of two passports to Ionians, not British subjects.
2. Alleged omission to levy certain small fees.
3. Alleged irregularities in the celebration of marriages, founded on mistakes alleged to have been made by my clerk in entering certain dates.

Even had these irregularities actually been established, my Lord, I would [*sic*] that the dismissal from employment of an officer of seventeen years' service, who had served faithfully and honourably, would be a most disproportionate punishment, carrying with it, as it does, entire and absolute ruin.

But I deny that I did commit anything wrong or irregular in these matters, and I undertake to prove this to your Lordship or to any impartial person.

I should have done so before, but I was deprived of the means of fully answering these allegations by my papers having been all taken possession of in my absence, and by my having been refused copies or a sight of some of the documents which are necessary in the opinion of my advisers.

None of the parties principally interested in the charges have been asked a single question; none of my witnesses have been heard; nor have I been allowed to be confronted with any of the alleged witnesses against me.

Irrespective of the truth or falsehood of the allegations made against me, I submit therefore that they have never been examined except in an *ex parte* manner, and that no charge whatever against me has been established.

I ask your Lordship, as a simple question of right and justice, to give me an opportunity of defending myself; and I am firmly convinced that your Lordship will not suffer an unoffending man to be further injured by *ex parte* statements.

I have the honour to call your Lordship's attention most seriously to the fact that I am prepared to show that the charges brought against me have been all advanced by the same person, namely, Mr. Stevens, my *locum tenens*, a Levantine gentleman whose antece-

* (*Note, F. O.*)—No person can be employed in the Diplomatic or other Service, under the Foreign Office, without a record being kept of such employment. There is no record of Mr. Grenville-Murray's being employed between 1841 and 1851.

dents in Persia are known to your Lordship, and who derived large pecuniary advantages from my suspension.

Mr. Stevens was appointed my *locum tenens* while I was on leave by a telegram from Mr. James Murray. Mr. James Murray selected Mr. Wilkins to make inquiry at Odessa, although Mr. Wilkins was entirely ignorant of the languages necessary to examine the parties, and had no other interpreter than Mr. Stevens; and Mr. James Murray is known to be prejudiced against me from, amongst other matters, a correspondence which I had with Mr. Bidwell in 1855 on the subject of the Agency system, and which was submitted to your Lordship.

Mr. James Murray is generally understood, moreover, to have transferred his Agency business to Mr. Bidwell, and it is apparent from Parliamentary returns that Mr. Stevens, who first planned the imputations against me, as well as Mr. Wilkins who was sent to make inquiries respecting them, and the gentleman who has been nominated to replace me, all employ Mr. Bidwell as their paid agent at the Foreign Office, while I have not employed any agent at the Foreign Office. And while I do not for a moment seek to allege that Mr. Bidwell would allow himself to be influenced by such circumstances, your Lordship will see that one and all of these gentlemen have gained in a pecuniary sense by the proceedings taken against me.

Upon these and other grounds I have now the honour to request that your Lordship will favour me with a fair hearing; permit me to be furnished with those documents, or a perusal of them, which I am advised are necessary fully to exculpate myself, including the case submitted to the Law Officers of the Crown, by whose opinion Lord Stanley stated he had been guided throughout.

Sir Patrick Colquhoun was informed by Lord Stanley that I might appeal to a succeeding Secretary of State, and his Lordship added that it was a great satisfaction to him to feel that his decision could be revised by his successor. I therefore now venture to make that appeal accordingly; and I trust that your Lordship will examine into my case, or allow some impartial and competent person to be deputed to do so, and will not form any adverse opinion on the subject until the result of such investigation is before you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 195.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1869.

I HAVE received your two letters of the 9th and 17th ultimo, in which you appeal to me for a further investigation of the circumstances which led my predecessor to recommend to the Queen that your Commission as Her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa should be cancelled.

I have read also with great care and attention all the papers connected with your case, and on which the judgment of my predecessor was founded: and I regret to inform you that I can see no sufficient reason for departing from the decision announced to you by Lord Stanley, and that I must decline to re-open a discussion which, so far as this Department is concerned, must be now terminated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 196.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 8.)

My Lord,

62, Brook Street, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, and to apply to your Lordship to give the usual directions for the pension which I have earned by seventeen years' service, to be paid to me while I remain unemployed.

At the same time, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I hold myself in readiness to proceed, whenever I may be called upon, to any quarter of the world, and in

any capacity required; and I venture respectfully to express my earnest hope that your Lordship will order me on further service as early as possible.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 197.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 11, 1869.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, and to refer you to the 8th clause of the Act 4 & 5 Wm. IV, cap. 24,* under which, before a superannuation allowance can be sanctioned, the Treasury require in all cases to be furnished with a certificate given by the Head Officer of the Department under which the applicant for superannuation has served, "that he has served with diligence and fidelity, to the satisfaction of such Head Officer."

Under the circumstances of your Commission having been cancelled, and of the terms in which this was announced to you by my predecessor, it is evidently not in my power to grant such a certificate in your case.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 198.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord, 62, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, February 17, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, in which you refer to the cancellation of my Commission by Lord Stanley, as a reason against the grant of any pension for my past services. I beg, therefore, respectfully to recur to the fact that the reasons alleged for the cancellation of my Commission were three in number:—

Firstly. The passports issued to Messrs. Vucina.

Secondly. The omission to levy certain small fees.

Thirdly. A mistake alleged to have been made by my clerk in entering the dates of certain marriage notices.

I humbly venture to repeat:—

Firstly. That the passports were not issued by me; but without my knowledge or authority, after I had left Odessa.

Secondly. That the fees I omitted to levy, are not specifically mentioned in the Fee Table issued by the Foreign Office for the guidance of Consuls; that my own returns of fees disclosed periodically, during nine years, the fact that I was not charging them, yet no observation was made to me during that long period respecting the omission of such fees from my annual accounts, which were faithfully rendered to the Foreign Office from year to year.

Thirdly. The mistake is not alleged to have been made by me, but by my clerk.

My clerks were painstaking and conscientious men, whose characters and antecedents I had carefully examined into. It is by no means probable that they would have made such mistakes, or if they had inadvertently done so, that they would have left them uncorrected.

I have thus shown, that with respect to the three charges alleged against me, the first was in no sense my act; the second was known to the Foreign Office for nine years, without a word being addressed to me to point out the misunderstanding under which I was unconsciously acting; and the third rests upon the assumption that a mistake occurred in my office, which I had taken the best means in my power to avoid, and from which it is not alleged that any one has suffered, if even the mistake has been committed at all.

I have, therefore, now the honour respectfully to submit to your Lordship that no statement of facts or evidence refuting my denial and assertions has been given, nor can it be given; that the charges will fail on investigation; that all I sought, and still seek, is an investigation; that Lord Stanley expressed his willingness, on the change of Government occurring, that the question should be reconsidered by his successor. I feel confident, therefore, your Lordship will not refuse the investigation and that reconsideration which your predecessor was willing should take place.

I most respectfully plead that the decision against me having been based on the

* Error. Should be Act 22 Vict., cap. 26, which amended the Act 4 and 5 Wm. IV, cap. 24.

assumption that the charges are proved against me, which is not the fact, and that assumption being apparently the only ground for refusing my pension or further employment, which I am ready to undertake, I again respectfully claim the investigation and reconsideration of my case. I request to be confronted with my accusers, or with the witnesses, whoever they may be; and I implicitly trust that your Lordship will feel bound by your high position of control and authority to grant so reasonable an application to an officer who has served seventeen years, and having attained the rank of Consul-General is now deprived of office, employment, or pension, and consequently of means of support, on the allegations set forth in the letter of the Secretary of State, dated May 28, 1868; the first and third of which are not even alleged to have been my act, or known to me; and the second of which was known to the Foreign Office during nine years, without remark being made upon the omission which I was, it now appears, committing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 199.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 19, 1869.

I HAVE received your letter of the 17th instant, with reference to which I must call your attention to the letter I addressed to you on the 13th ultimo, and especially to its concluding paragraph.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 200.

Mr. Grenville-Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

62, Brook Street, March 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 19th instant, and to express my deep regret that any explanation given by me should have been unsatisfactory to your Lordship. I have now the honour most respectfully to assure your Lordship that after carefully examining the whole past correspondence, I am quite at a loss to know in what respect my replies have been insufficient, as the cancellation of my Commission was based on three charges only, as stated in Lord Stanley's letter, dated Foreign Office, May 28, 1868.

Of these charges I have shown that the first was based on an act committed without my authority or knowledge after I had left Odessa, and when I was not even in Russia at all. The second was based on an alleged omission, consequent on a misconstruction of the Table of Fees, but which omission had been periodically during nine years disclosed by me to the Foreign Office without remark; and the third is based on a mistake committed, if at all committed, by my clerk, and not by myself.

I have never received any intimation that this statement of mine disposing of the three charges is in any way unfounded or incorrect, and I feel confident that your Lordship's sense of justice will cause you at once to furnish me with the particulars in which the charges referred to, and my answers, require further explanation, that I may be enabled to give it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY.

No. 201.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Grenville-Murray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 4, 1869.

I HAVE received your letter of the 1st instant, requesting further particulars as to the charges brought against you; and in now referring you to my previous letters, I must decline further correspondence with you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

DECLARATION

RENOUNCING THE USE, IN TIME OF WAR,

OF

EXPLOSIVE PROJECTILES UNDER

400 GRAMMES WEIGHT.

Signed at St. Petersburg, ^{November 29}_{December 11}, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

DECLARATION renouncing the use, in time of War, of Explosive Projectiles under 400 Grammes Weight.

Signed at St. Petersburg, ^{November 29}_{December 11,} 1868.

Déclaration.

SUR la proposition du Cabinet Impérial de Russie, une Commission Militaire Internationale ayant été réunie à St. Pétersbourg, afin d'examiner la convenance d'interdire l'usage de certains projectiles en tems de guerre entre les nations civilisées, et cette Commission ayant fixé d'un commun accord les limites techniques où les nécessités de la guerre doivent s'arrêter devant les exigences de l'humanité, les Soussignés sont autorisés par les ordres de leurs Gouvernements à déclarer ce qui suit :

Considérant que les progrès de la civilisation doivent avoir pour effet d'atténuer autant que possible les calamités de la guerre ;

Que le seul but légitime que les Etats doivent se proposer durant la guerre est l'affaiblissement des forces militaires de l'ennemi ;

Qu'à cet effet, il suffit de mettre hors de combat le plus grand nombre d'hommes possible ;

Que ce but serait dépassé par l'emploi d'armes qui aggraveraient inutilement les souffrances des hommes mis hors de combat, ou rendraient leur mort inévitable ;

Que l'emploi de pareilles armes serait dès lors contraire aux lois de l'humanité ;

Les Parties Contractantes s'engagent à renoncer mutuellement, en cas de guerre entre elles, à l'emploi par leurs troupes de terre ou de mer, de tout projectile d'un poids inférieur à 400 grammes qui serait ou explosible ou chargé de matières fulminantes ou inflammables.

Elles inviteront tous les Etats qui n'ont pas participé par l'envoi de Délégués aux délibérations de la Commission Militaire Internationale réunie à St. Pétersbourg à accéder au présent engagement.

Cet engagement n'est obligatoire que pour les Parties Contractantes ou Accédantes en cas de guerre entre deux ou plusieurs d'entre elles : il n'est pas applicable vis-à-vis de Parties non-Contractantes ou qui n'auraient pas accédé.

Il cesserait également d'être obligatoire du moment où, dans une guerre entre Parties Contractantes ou Accédantes, une partie non-Contractante ou qui n'aurait pas accédé se joindrait à l'un des belligérants.

Les Parties Contractantes ou Accédantes se réservent de s'entendre ultérieurement toutes les fois qu'une proposition précise serait formulée en vue des perfectionnements à venir que la science pourrait apporter dans l'armement des troupes, afin de maintenir les principes qu'elles ont posés et de concilier les nécessités de la guerre avec les lois de l'humanité.

Fait à St. Pétersbourg, le ^{vingt-neuf Novembre}_{onze, Décembre}, mil huit cent soixante-huit.

Pour la Grande Bretagne	..	ANDREW BUCHANAN.
„ l'Autriche et la Hongrie	..	VETSERÁ.
„ la Bavière	..	COMTE TAUFFKIRCHEN.
„ la Belgique	..	COMTE ERREMBAUT DE DUDZEELE.
„ le Danemarck	..	E. VIND.
„ la France	..	TALLEYRAND.
„ la Grèce	..	S. A. METAXA.
„ l'Italie	..	BELLA CARACCILO.
„ les Pays Bas	..	BARON GEVERS.
„ la Perse	..	MIRZA ASSEDULLAH KHAN.
„ le Portugal	..	RILVAS.
„ la Prusse et la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord.	..	H. VII v. REUSS.
„ la Russie	..	GORTCHACOW.
„ la Suède et la Norwége	..	O. M. BJORNSTJERNA.
„ la Suisse	..	AD. GLINZ.
„ la Turquie	..	CARATHEODORY.
„ le Wurtemberg	..	C. V. ABELE.

(Translation.)

Declaration.

ON the proposition of the Imperial Cabinet of Russia, an International Military Commission having assembled at St. Petersburg in order to examine into the expediency of forbidding the use of certain projectiles in times of war between civilized nations, and that Commission, having by common agreement fixed the technical limits at which the necessities of war ought to yield to the requirements of humanity, the Undersigned are authorized by the orders of their Governments to declare as follows:—

Considering that the progress of civilization should have the effect of alleviating as much as possible the calamities of war;

That the only legitimate object which States should endeavour to accomplish during war is to weaken the military forces of the enemy;

That for this purpose it is sufficient to disable the greatest possible number of men;

That this object would be exceeded by the employment of arms which uselessly aggravate the sufferings of disabled men, or render their death inevitable;

That the employment of such arms would, therefore, be contrary to the laws of humanity;

The Contracting Parties engage mutually to renounce, in case of war among themselves, the employment by their military or naval troops of any projectile of a weight below 400 grammes, which is either explosive or charged with fulminating or inflammable substances.

They will invite all the States which have not taken part in the deliberations of the International Military Commission assembled at St. Petersburg, by sending Delegates thereto, to accede to the present engagement.

This engagement is obligatory only upon the Contracting or Acceding Parties thereto, in case of war between two or more of themselves: it is not applicable with regard to non-Contracting Parties, or Parties who shall not have acceded to it.

It will also cease to be obligatory from the moment when, in a war between Contracting or Acceding Parties, a non-Contracting Party or a non-Acceding Party shall join one of the belligerents.

The Contracting or Acceding Parties reserve to themselves to come hereafter to an understanding whenever a precise proposition shall be drawn up in view of future improvements which science may effect in the armament of troops, in order to maintain the principles which they have established, and to conciliate the necessities of war with the laws of humanity.

Done at St. Petersburg, the ^{twenty-ninth of November}_{eleventh of December}, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

For Great Britain ..	..	ANDREW BUCHANAN.
„ Austria and Hungary ..	..	VETSER.
„ Bavaria ..	..	COUNT TAUFFKIRCHEN.
„ Belgium ..	..	COUNT ERREMBULT DE DUDZEELE.
„ Denmark ..	..	E. VIND.
„ France ..	..	TALLEYRAND.
„ Greece ..	..	S. A. METAXA.
„ Italy ..	..	BELLA CARACCILO.
„ Netherlands ..	..	BARON GEVERS.
„ Persia ..	..	MIRZA ASSEDULLAH KHAN.
„ Portugal ..	..	RILVAS.
„ Prussia and North German Confederation..	..	H. VII v. REUSS.
„ Russia ..	..	GORTCHACOW.
„ Sweden and Norway ..	..	O. M. BJORNSTJERNA.
„ Switzerland ..	..	AD. GLINZ.
„ Turkey ..	..	CARATHEODORY.
„ Wurtemberg ..	..	C. V. ABELE.

DECLARATION renouncing the Use, in time
of War, of Explosive Projectiles under
400 Grammes Weight.

*Signed at St. Petersburg, November 29,
December 11, 1868.*

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

DECLARATION

CANCELLING PART OF ARTICLE VII OF THE
TREATY OF JULY 10, 1851,

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN

AND THE

SANDWICH ISLANDS,

AND

CONTINUING THE REST OF THE TREATY FOR
SEVEN YEARS' FIXED DURATION.

Signed at Paris, June 29, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

DECLARATION cancelling part of Article VII of the Treaty of
July 10, 1851, between Great Britain and the Sandwich
Islands, and continuing the rest of the Treaty for Seven
Years' fixed Duration.

Signed at Paris, June 29, 1869.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of France, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, hereby declare that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and the Government of His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, have agreed to cancel so much of the Seventh Article of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation, concluded between their said Majesties on the tenth of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, as relates to British whale-ships visiting the ports of the Sandwich Islands, and that the same is hereby cancelled accordingly.

They also declare that the said Treaty, with the exception of so much of the Seventh Article as is hereby cancelled, shall remain in full force and validity for seven years from the date of this Declaration, and further until the expiration of twelve months after either of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same; either party being at liberty to give such notice at the expiration of the said term of seven years, or at any time afterwards.

In witness whereof they have signed the present Declaration, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Paris, the twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

(L.S.) LYONS.
(L.S.) C. DE VARIGNY.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Declaration cancelling part of Article VII
of the Treaty of July 10, 1851, between
Great Britain and the Sandwich Islands,
and continuing the rest of the Treaty
for Seven Years' fixed Duration.

Signed at Paris, June 29, 1869.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

SEIZURE OF THE “TORNADO,”

OFF

MADEIRA,

BY THE

SPANISH FRIGATE “GERONA.”

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament,
March 10, 1868.)

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

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CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Seizure of the "Tornado,"
off Madeira, by the Spanish Frigate "Gerona."

No. 1.

Captain Mc Killop to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 11.)

*Harcourt Road South, Penge Park, Penge,
March 7, 1868.*

Sir,

WITH reference to Messrs. Isaac and Co.'s letter of the 12th of June, 1867,* denying the statements made by me, I beg to offer the evidence of Captain Holmes, late of the "Cyclone," who has sought me and offered to give such information as he is possessed of, to Lord Stanley to corroborate the statements made by me. I do not value the contradictions of Messrs. Isaac sufficiently to seek any corroboration from others; but a gentleman who has filled an important post in their service, and holding documents which may put the firm in their true colours before the authorities, having volunteered to place his evidence at my disposal, I beg to submit it to you, and inclose Captain Holmes' address.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. F. Mc KILLOP.

No. 2.

Consul Dunlop to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 26.)

My Lord,

Cadiz, March 20, 1868.

I AM informed by the Secretary of the Tribunal of Prizes here that orders have come from Madrid to place John McPherson, Third Mate of the "Tornado," "at full liberty;" and that he is to receive passports "for any destination he may desire to go to."

Notification of this has been forwarded to McPherson at Puerto Real, a neighbouring village, where he has been residing on parole.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

No. 3.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Dunlop, M.P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1868.

WITH reference to my letter of the 27th February last,† I am directed by Lord Stanley to acquaint you that his Lordship has received this day a despatch from Mr. Dunlop, Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, dated the 20th instant, stating that he has been informed by the Secretary of the Tribunal of Prizes at that place that orders had been received from Madrid to place John McPherson, third mate of the "Tornado," at full liberty; and that he was to receive passports for any destination he might desire to go to, and that a notification to that effect had been forwarded to McPherson at Puerto Real, a neighbouring village, where he has been residing on parole.

Lord Stanley would feel obliged if you would communicate this intelligence to the Provost and inhabitants of Greenock, who signed a memorial on behalf of John McPherson, inclosed in your letter of the 24th ultimo.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

* See "Tornado" Papers, No. 9 (1867), p. 5.

† Ibid., No. 1 (1868), p. 28.

No. 4.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 1.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, March 29, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th ultimo,* I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Consul Dunlop has acquainted me that McPherson is now at liberty, but I have not as yet received any notification from Señor Arrazola corroborating this statement.

No. 5.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 3.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 30, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th instant I have now the honour to inclose translation of an official note which I have this day received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, acquainting me that Her Catholic Majesty's Government have, as an act of deference to Her Majesty's Government, given orders for the liberation of Mr. John McPherson, mate of the "Tornado."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Señor Arrazola to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, March 27, 1868.

AS I had the honour to inform your Excellency in my note of the 22nd of February, on the same day I made the Minister of Marine acquainted with the contents of your Excellency's note of the 19th of the same month, in which you request in the name of your Government that the Chilean engineer, John McPherson, who belonged to the crew of the steamer "Tornado," should be set at liberty.

The "Auditor" of the Department of Cadiz having been consulted upon this point, and his opinion having been given, I now have the satisfaction of informing your Excellency that, although in accordance with international law McPherson should be considered a prisoner of war if the "Tornado" were to be definitively declared a good prize, Her Majesty's Government desiring to give a new proof of their deference to that of Her Britannic Majesty, and considering that the detention of the above-mentioned individual is not indispensable for the termination of the proceedings concerning the said steamer, have already given the necessary orders through the Minister of Marine to have McPherson set at liberty.

This notification having been once made in legal form, the necessary passport will have been issued to him in order that he may return to his country whenever he may think fit.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) S. ARRAZOLA.

No. 6.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 3, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 30th ultimo I have to instruct you to convey to Her Catholic Majesty's Government the thanks of that of Her Majesty for the liberation of Mr. John McPherson, the mate of the steam-vessel "Tornado."

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

* See "Tornado" Papers, No. 1 (1868), p. 29.

No. 7.

Consul Dunlop to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Cadiz, March 31, 1868.

I BEG leave to report to your Lordship that John McPherson, Third Mate of the "Tornado," after being formally liberated by the Spanish authorities here, left this for England last week.

I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter from him which reached me the day after he left, in which he expresses his satisfaction with the services rendered to him (in conformity with your Lordship's instructions) by this Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP

Inclosure in No. 7.

Mr. J. McPherson to Consul Dunlop.

Sir,

Puerto Real, March 25, 1868.

I HAVE received from the Spanish authorities my discharge from being a prisoner, and my passport to go home; and I shall leave this on Thursday in the steamer for England.

Before leaving I write to express to you my deep sense of gratitude for all you have done for me during the nineteen months I have been detained here as a prisoner; and I can assure you that I am greatly obliged for your unvarying consideration and kindness to me, without which my position would have been much worse than it was, and without which I fear that my detention might have been prolonged.

I am aware of the many difficulties you have had to contend with regarding my case, and feel deeply grateful for your attention to my requirements and for the manner in which this has been afforded to me, which so much lightened and cheered my long arrest ever since the "Tornado" was brought into Cadiz Bay.

With my very best wishes for your health and happiness, I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN McPHERSON.

No. 8.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 18, 1868.

ON receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd instant, instructing me to convey to Her Catholic Majesty's Government the thanks of that of Her Majesty for the liberation of Mr. John McPherson, I immediately addressed a note to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject. I have now the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Arrazola, in which his Excellency informs me of the satisfaction felt by Her Catholic Majesty's Government at the manner in which that of Her Majesty has appreciated McPherson's release.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Señor Arrazola to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, April 14, 1868.

IN reply to your Excellency's note of the 7th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Her Majesty has seen with satisfaction that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty appreciated the news which I communicated to your Excellency with reference the release of the mate McPherson, of the steamer "Tornado."

I avail, &c.

(Signed) L. ARRAZOLA.

No. 9.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord,

73, Arlington Street, Mornington Crescent,
April 29, 1868.

HAVING ascertained that the Spanish Government have at last come to a decision with regard to the steamer "Tornado," which ship I was the commander of, I would feel much obliged if your Lordship would inform me whether such decision is favourable or otherwise to the ship and her crew.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 10.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Collier.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 1, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, stating that you have ascertained that the Spanish Government has come to a decision with regard to the steamer "Tornado;" and I am to state to you, in reply, that no intelligence to that effect has reached this office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 11.

Mr. Maddock to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 9.)

Re the "Tornado."

My Lord,

15, Serjeant's Inn, Temple, London, May 8, 1868.

I BEG to apply to your Lordship on behalf of a great portion of the crew of the above ship, for whom I am concerned,—which ship was seized, together with her crew, and detained by the Spanish Government,—to know (as the ship I am informed is about to be released) whether it has been in any way arranged that the crew are to be compensated for their imprisonment and other injuries sustained by them; if so, I should feel obliged by your Lordship kindly informing me when it is probable their claims would be paid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES MADDOCK.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Maddock.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 11, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant; and I am to state to you, in reply, that his Lordship is not aware of any arrangement being made on behalf of the crew of the "Tornado."

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

Mr. Forbes Campbell to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

45, Dover Street, Piccadilly, May 29, 1868.

MORE than a twelvemonth has elapsed since I had the honour to address your Lordship on behalf of the officers and crew of the "Tornado," and to crave the enforcement, by Her Majesty's Government, of my constituents' claims upon the Government of

Spain for indemnification for injuries and losses sustained by them in consequence of their illegal detention, imprisonment, and cruel treatment; which indemnification was, under the instructions from Her Majesty's Government, formally demanded by Sir John Crampton so long ago as the 11th of February, 1867.

During the above-mentioned interval I have been repeatedly requested by individual members of the crew and by their distressed families to represent afresh to your Lordship how their still unredressed wrongs are aggravated by excessive procrastination and "unnecessary delay, which is," to use your Lordship's own words, "in itself a wrong;" but I have abstained from doing so, in consequence of your Lordship's declaration in Parliament that Her Majesty's Government would continue carefully and anxiously to watch the case, and would insist on justice being done to the crew.

Several persons who sympathize with these ill-used men have laid their case before Sir Robert Collier and Mr. C. J. Cottingham, and have obtained from these gentlemen a joint opinion respecting the claims of the crew upon the Spanish Government. I now beg leave to hand your Lordship that case and opinion.

Although the Spanish Government has at length liberated all the "Tornado" prisoners (John MacPherson, the last of them, having been set free "by Royal Order" upon the 20th of March last), it has not restored any portion of the personal effects worth 1,093*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* sterling, of which the crew were robbed, as set forth in their affidavit of 6th March, 1867. (See page 56 of Part II of Tornado Correspondence, 1867.)

May I express the hope that your Lordship will not tolerate any further delay, but will now feel warranted in pressing the crew's claims "in an emphatic and serious manner?"

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. FORBES CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Case for the Opinion of Counsel, on behalf of the Crew of the British screw-steamer "Tornado."

IN the beginning of August 1866, the British screw steamer "Tornado," of which Mr. Saul Isaac, of 7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street London, a British subject, is the registered "managing owner" was lying in Leith Roads, bound for Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Ayres, and other ports. Upon the 8th, 9th, and 10th of said month of August, her crew, which consisted of 55 persons, of whom 51 were British subjects, were duly engaged before the shipping-master of Leith, by the master, Edward Montague Collier, who had taken command on the 6th of August. Copy of the agreement with the crew, of the manifest, clearance, bill of health, and certificate from Brazilian Consul, are herewith laid before Counsel. (See page 63 of Part II of Tornado Correspondence of 1867.)

Having obtained all necessary and requisite papers and documents, after search by the Customs officials, and after having been duly cleared, the "Tornado" sailed from Leith Roads on the 10th of August, 1866, for Rio de Janeiro, and subsequently, if advisable, for Buenos Ayres and San Francisco, on a legitimate "selling voyage." She was altogether unarmed, having neither cannon, nor ammunition, nor a single fire-arm on board. She carried no contraband of war of any kind. She had, indeed, no cargo, and carried only her crew, stores, and coals.

It should be here mentioned that the Spanish Minister in London on the 27th of July and 9th of August, 1866, made urgent applications to the British Government to prevent the departure of the "Tornado" from Leith on the ground of a breach of the Foreign Enlistment Act. The said Minister falsely represented to our Foreign Office that the "Tornado" was a "Chilean vessel" and about to take on board "cannon and sailors for the service of the Chilean Navy," and was "completing her equipment and armament as a privateer." (See pages 145 and 166 of Part I of 1867.) Those representations were all utterly unfounded. Nevertheless, in consequence of them the British Government caused the "Tornado" to be "watched," "searched," "rummaged," and "re-rummaged" by the Custom-house authorities at Leith, who reported that there was no ground for detaining the vessel. The Law Officers of the Crown were consulted, and they were of opinion that "that there was nothing in the case calling for the interference of Her Majesty's Government." (See page 167 of Part I of 1867.)

It is an important fact that no one of the "Tornado's" crew had served on board that vessel or been in anywise connected with her or her owner or master prior to the 6th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of August, 1866, when they respectively joined her. With the

exception of John Macpherson, the third mate, who was some years ago employed in Chile as the engineer of a small coast-guard steamer, but who never was a commissioned officer in the service of Chile in any capacity, no one of the "Tornado's" crew ever had, at any time, any transaction whatsoever with the Government of Chile, nor had been in Chile.

The "Tornado" having, as before mentioned, left Leith on the 10th of August, arrived on the 21st of said month in the Bay of Funchal, in the island of Maderia, where she was "reported as having called to coal on her way from Leith to Rio de Janeiro" (see Acting Consul Hayward's despatch, page 2 of Part I of 1867), Mr. Hayward, the Acting British Consul, treated the "Tornado" as a British vessel, and recorded her as such in the register of the Consulate. He reported that she made the usual entries at Funchal, and obtained clearances from the local authorities to leave that port. Shortly before 8 o'clock on the evening of the 22nd August, the "Tornado" left Funchal and steamed to the westward, close along the southern coast of Madeira, "to try her machinery." At 10 P.M., when about two English miles distant from the Madeira shore (see Chart at page 3 of Part VII of 1867), and thus in Portuguese waters, the "Tornado" was fired at and boarded by the crew of the "Spanish steam-frigate 'Gerona.'" The Commander of that frigate had received, from the Spanish Minister of Marine, a peremptory Royal Order bearing date the 14th August, 1866, and enjoining him to capture the 'Tornado' as prize of war regardless of consequences." (For text of Royal Order see pages 12 of and 13 part I of 1867.) This Royal Order, issued on the very next day after Lord Stanley had acquainted the Spanish Government that there was no ground for preventing the "Tornado's" departure, proves that the high-handed outrage perpetrated on the British flag was premeditated. For the details of the seizure and the acts of robbing, wounding, cruelty, and inhumanity committed by the Spanish captors, Counsel are referred to the protest of the master, officers, and crew of the "Tornado," dated Cadiz, the 23rd of November, 1866 (see page 54 of Part I of 1867), and also to their Petition to Parliament, for redress and compensation, dated Cadiz, the 31st of January, 1867 (see page 25 of Part I of 1867). Counsel will take note, that at the time of seizure the master of the "Tornado" repeatedly proffered the ship's papers to the Commander of the "Gerona" for examination, that the latter refused to inspect them; but producing a paper, exclaimed, "Here are my orders to capture you when and wherever I may find you." The Commander of the "Gerona" declined to search the "Tornado," or to look at her papers; but informed Captain Collier that his ship was taken as a prize, on the ground that she was a Chilean privateer, and that he and his crew must consider themselves prisoners of war." In vain Captain Collier protested that the "Tornado" was an unarmed British vessel, bound on a legitimate voyage, and in proof thereof proffered again the ship papers for the captor's inspection. The Commander of the "Gerona" only repeated that his orders from Madrid "to seize the 'Tornado' under any circumstances, and at all hazards," were imperative, and must be carried out.

The unarmed and defenceless crew of the "Tornado" were treated in the most cruel and inhuman manner by the officers and crew of the "Gerona," an armed vessel, and manned by a war crew of about men. Several of the "Tornado's" crew were cut or wounded. The money, chronometers, watches, clothing, instruments, tools, and other property of all, were forcibly taken from them; sixteen of the "Tornado's" crew, "although unresisting, were put in irons by the captors, who declared that the whole crew should have been so treated had there been irons sufficient." Forty-eight of the "Tornado's" crew were, on the night of capture, transferred to the "Gerona" as prisoners of war, and were then fed on loathsome and unwholesome food, and subjected to atrociously cruel treatment and severe privations. The "Gerona" did not carry their prisoners at once direct to Cadiz, but continued to cruise off Madeira for about ten days, and did not arrive with the said forty-eight prisoners at Cadiz until the 6th of September, 1866. It is submitted that these forty-eight men ought not to have been removed from the "Tornado," or if their removal was justifiable, they ought to have been carried to Cadiz direct, and without delay. On the 23rd of August, the "Tornado," with her master, and eight men of her crew (as prisoners of war), was sent under charge of a Spanish prize crew to Cadiz, where she arrived on the 26th of August, or eleven days before the "Gerona." The coals were taken out of the "Tornado's" hold, and she was thoroughly searched, in the expectation that guns and contraband of war would be found concealed, but nothing of the kind was found. For the details of the barbarous ill-usage to which the prisoners were subjected, Counsel is referred to their depositions sworn before the British Consul at Cadiz (see page 55 of Part II, and page 1 of Part IV of 1867). The master, and eight prisoners, confined on board the "Tornado," were kept separate for twelve days after their arrival at Cadiz, as close prisoners, with armed sentries over them, and were not permitted

to hold any communication with the British Consul, or with one another, or with any one ashore. It was not until the 17th October, that the British Consul was for the first time permitted to visit the crew, who had been for upwards of six weeks kept close prisoners at Cadiz, and deprived of all means of communicating with him.

The master of the "Tornado" was liberated on parole on the 30th of October, 1866, after having undergone sixty-five days of imprisonment, reckoning from the date of his arrival. After the arrival of the "Gerona" at Cadiz, the forty-eight prisoners confined on board of her were, on the 3rd of October, 1866, transferred to the Spanish frigate "Esperanza," then lying in Cadiz Bay, and detained on board of her as close prisoners of war. All the prisoners underwent compulsory prolix and inquisitorial examinations, and re-examinations, before a Spanish Tribunal, composed of six naval officers, and a Civil "Auditor," or Prosecutor (see page 20 of Part II of 1867), which sat in secret inquiry on board the "Tornado," "Gerona," and "Esperanza" alternately, during which examinations they were not permitted to have the counsel or assistance of the British Consul at Cadiz, or of a competent interpreter or solicitor, either English or Spanish, contrary to Treaty stipulations and the usages of civilized States. The aforesaid examinations were concluded on the 31st October (having lasted for several weeks); but the crew, with the exception of the master, were still kept in close confinement as prisoners of war on board the "Tornado" and "Esperanza," and were treated with rigour, ignominy, cruelty, and even barbarity. Upon the 20th September, 1866, the crew addressed to the British Government, through the British Consul at Cadiz, a protest against "the injustice, cruelty, and oppression" they were enduring, and demanded the prompt interference of the British Government to obtain for them redress and compensation from the Government of Spain." The prisoner, John Macpherson, third mate of the "Tornado," was detained separately as a prisoner of war in the arsenal at Cadiz, and was prevented from communicating with the British Consul until the 2nd of January, 1867, when he made an important declaration on oath, to which Counsel is referred (see page 71 of Part I of 1867.)

Upon the 15th of December, 1866, the Cadiz Tribunal declared the "Tornado" good prize of war, and ordered her crew "to be placed as prisoners at the disposal of the Captain-General of the Department, for him to decide what is necessary with regard to them, according to the orders which he had received or may receive from the Government." This treatment of the crew as prisoners of war, was altogether at variance with a written assurance, given on the 12th December, 1866, by the Spanish Government to the British Minister at Madrid in the following words:—"All the crew, except McPherson, are only witnesses in the suit, and their detention (it is not imprisonment) depends only on the length of that suit" (see page 62 of Part I of 1867).

Upon the 11th of January, 1867, the British Minister at Madrid, under instructions from Lord Stanley, "demanded the immediate release" of the "Tornado's" crew (see page 95 of Part I of 1867).

Upon the 18th of January, 1867, the said Minister, under telegraphic instructions from Lord Stanley, protested against the sentence of condemnation of the "Tornado" and crew as null and void (see page 120 of Part I of 1867).

Upon the 21st of January, 1867, the said Minister reiterated his protest against the sentence by which the "Tornado" was decreed to be prize of war, and her officers and crew prisoners of war (see page 124 of Part I of 1867).

In conformity with Lord Stanley's instructions of the 8th February, 1867, the said Minister, on the 11th of February, 1867, demanded "formally," on the part of the British Government, "the immediate liberation of the master and crew of the 'Tornado';" and also "that they should be indemnified for the injuries and losses incurred by them in consequence of their detention and imprisonment" (see page 31 of Part II of 1867).

Upon the 14th February, 1867, the Spanish Government replied, declining to accede to the demands of the British Government, and stating that the prisoners ("detenidos") "should continue prisoners until a condition *sine qua non* to the liberation of any of them should be fulfilled." Yet already, on the 11th February, the President of the Cadiz Tribunal had officially notified to the British Consul at Cadiz that, "in fulfilment of the instructions of his Government, and of what had been ordered by the Prize Court, the greater part of the crew of the 'Tornado' would be placed at liberty and handed over to the British Consul (see page 34 of Part II of 1867).

The British Consul replied on the 12th February, agreeing to receive the prisoners, but "without thereby waiving or relinquishing the protest or the effect of the protest or demand for redress and compensation to the crew formerly made on their behalf by the British Government" (see page 35 of Part II of 1867).

Upon the 14th February, 1867, 3 of the prisoners were liberated; upon the 16th February, 27; and upon the 18th February, 15 prisoners were liberated: making

together 45 liberated. The 3 prisoners liberated on the 14th of February were Portuguese seamen engaged at Maderia to replace men who had failed to join the "Tornado" at Leith. The 27 prisoners liberated on the 16th, and the 15 liberated on the 18th February were all British subjects. The former had been kept in close confinement for 178, and the latter for 180 days, or about six months.

After the preceding liberations 7 officers and 1 seaman still remained prisoners.

Upon their liberation, the crew of the "Tornado" addressed on the 18th of February, 1867, to the British Consul at Cadiz, a letter in which they requested him "to register their claim against the Spanish Government for full compensation and indemnity for ill-usage and long captivity," and laid claim to "heavy damages" (see page 42 of Part II of 1867).

Upon 12th March, Lord Stanley stated that the crews' claim on the Spanish Government could not be pressed at that moment, but was reserved for further consideration (see page 59 of Part II of 1867).

In answer to a telegraphic despatch dated 26th February, 1867, from Lord Stanley to the British Minister at Madrid, inquiring "on what grounds are the seven officers and one seaman of the 'Tornado' still detained as prisoners?" The said Minister replied on the 27th of February as follows:—"The Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me the seven officers and one seaman of the 'Tornado' are detained by the Prize Court as witnesses for the accusation; the remainder of the crew were liberated because the defendants abandoned their right of retaining any of them as witnesses on their side."

The attention of Counsel is called to Mr. Consul Graham Dunlop's letter to the British Minister at Madrid dated 4th of March, 1867, in which he states that, in consequence of Lord Stanley's orders forbidding him to register the "Tornado" at the Cadiz Consulate as a British ship he could not send home the liberated crew as "distressed British seamen," or as "shipwrecked British seamen" (see page 54 of Part II of 1867).

Upon the 21st of March, 1867, the Cadiz Prize Tribunal ratified the Decree of condemnation of the "Tornado" and her crew, pronounced on the 15th December preceding.

Mr. Collier, the master of the "Tornado" was not set at liberty until the 1st of April, after having been detained for 222 days.

Counsel will observe that the liberation of the master and the crew was declared by the President of the Cadiz Prize Tribunal to be "an act of grace on the part of the Queen of Spain." (See page 12 of Part VII of 1867.)

John MacPherson was still detained as prisoner of war, notwithstanding the assurance given him by Lord Stanley on the 12th of March, 1867, that his liberation would be insisted on (see page 55 of Part II of 1867). He was liberated by order of the Cadiz Prize Court on the 20th of March, 1868, after a detention of one year and 211 days.

The owners of the "Tornado" protested against the competency of the Cadiz Tribunal, and appealed to the Supreme Court of War and and Marine at Madrid, which Court, on the 23rd of May, 1867, pronounced the proceedings of the Cadiz Court to be null and void *ab initio*, and accordingly quashed the sentence of condemnation *quoad* "Tornado" and crew. This Judgment of the Supreme Court was ratified by the Spanish Council of State (the highest Tribunal in the kingdom) and as no appeal was raised against it by the captors, the Judgment of the said Supreme Court became, and is, according to the law of Spain, "final and irrevocable." (See page 1 of Part I of 1868.)

Upon the 15th of April, 1867, the attorney and agent of the crew requested Lord Stanley to press the crew's claims to indemnification which had been by his Lordship's orders "formally" made on the 11th of February, 1867, and stated that the officers and crew deemed themselves entitled to, at the very "least, 12,500*l.*, besides 1,093*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* of which they were robbed, as is set forth in their affidavit of 6th March, 1867." (See page 43 of Part VII of 1867.)

Upon the 23rd of August, 1867, the owner of the "Tornado" was cited by the Spanish Government to appear afresh before the Prize Court of Cadiz and defend his ship at a new trial. That renovated trial, although forbidden by the laws of Spain, is still pending, but no decision has been arrived at, as the owner of the "Tornado" protested and appealed against the Court making use of the evidence taken on the first trial, and which had been "quashed." The most eminent Spanish lawyers who have been consulted upon the point are of opinion that the trial "*de novo*" as suggested by Lord Stanley is not only unjust, but contrary to all Spanish precedents, and that, it is, moreover, a sheer impossibility." "One considerable bar to a second trial," they observe, "is the absence from Cadiz both of the captors and the captured. According to Spanish law, the first and indispensable step in a prize case is the examination of the capturing and the captured

crews, and it being now impossible to comply with this fundamental rule in the case of the 'Tornado,' a trial *de novo* is impracticable."

At this second trial the "Tornado's" crew are not parties, and are not represented. Lord Stanley, in his despatches to Sir John Crampton of the 8th of February and 12th of March, 1867, completely separated the case and claim of the crew (which are completed and closed) from those of the owner (see page 137 of Part I and page 59 of Part II of 1867).

The opinion of Counsel is asked upon the following points:—

1. Have the crew a well-founded claim to compensation from the Spanish Government?
2. Is it the duty of the British Government under the circumstances set forth to press and enforce the claim already formally made?
3. Can a second trial cure the illegalities and incompetency of the first trial, or affect the crew's rights to compensation?
4. What steps do Counsel advise the crew now to adopt?

Opinion.

(1.) We are of opinion that, assuming the statements of the crew to be substantially correct, they have a well-founded claim to compensation.

The Spanish Government having justified their detention on the ground of their being required as witnesses, we think the length of time they were detained so unreasonable, and their treatment so severe and cruel, that their claim will not necessarily fail even if the vessel should ultimately be condemned.

(2 and 3.) The fresh proceedings instituted, after the failure of the first, appear to us of a very strange, not to say oppressive, character; but we have not the materials before us on which to form a decided opinion whether or not they are contrary to Spanish law. It is the duty of the Government to inform themselves on this subject, and if they should be satisfied that these proceedings are unauthorized by Spanish law, to lose no time in protesting against them, and demanding compensation. If they should not be so satisfied, a reasonable time must be allowed for the termination of the proceedings. But inasmuch as the amount of the claim (at all events) will a good deal depend upon the ultimate decision as to the character of the vessel, we do not see how the Government can be required immediately to insist upon the payment of any definite sum by the Spanish Government.

(4.) The only course open to the crew is to make representations to the Foreign Office, and we think they are entitled to urge that no further unnecessary delay should be permitted.

(Signed) C. J. COTTINGHAM.
R. P. COLLIER.

Temple, May 27, 1868.

No. 14.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 4.)

My Lord, 73, Arlington Street, Mornington Crescent, June 3, 1868.

I AGAIN take the liberty of addressing your Lordship, in the hope of hearing something in reply which will be satisfactory to myself and the late crew of the British steamer "Tornado."

Will your Lordship kindly inform me whether any negotiations are going on with the Spanish Government, which are likely to lead to a speedy settlement?

I trust your Lordship will urge, as much as possible, my claim upon the Spanish Government, as I am sure your Lordship cannot be blind to my particular case, having lost all my instruments and papers, which I can never replace; all of which I hope will be a sufficient apology for my again addressing you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 15.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Forbes Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 4, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, calling attention to the claims upon the Government of Spain of the crew of the "Tornado;" and I am to state to you that the matter will be considered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 16.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Collier.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 6, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, on the subject of the case of the "Tornado;" and in reply I am to inform you that no negotiations are at present on foot with regard to that case, which is still before the Spanish tribunals.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 17.

Mr. Park to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 22.)

*83, Neilsen Street, Tradeston, Glasgow,
June 20, 1868.*

Sir,

I TAKE the liberty of addressing you. Being a member of the crew of the steam-ship "Tornado," I wish to represent my case, as, according to the opinion expressed in the newspapers by Sir Robert P. Collier and Mr. C. J. Cottingham, I am entitled to compensation. I have to mention that I am 30 years of age, and went to Madeira in the "Tornado;" and on proceeding to Rio de Janeiro we were attacked and captured by the Spanish vessel steam-ship "Gerona." I was taken prisoner, and confined for seven months in Cadiz; and having been nearly killed by a wound from a cutlass, I was in a very poor state of health.

The treatment I received in prison was of the most cruel and shameful description. I will be obliged for an early communication, informing me how I am to obtain the compensation to which I am entitled.

I may mention that in my calamities I lost everything in the shape of clothing and money I had.

Hoping an early and favourable reply, I am, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN PARK,

Late Fireman in the steam-ship "Tornado."

No. 18.

Mr. Robertson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 24.)

*10, Albert Street, Govan, by Glasgow,
June 22, 1868.*

Sir,

I TAKE the liberty of informing you that I was one of the crew, as fireman, of the "Tornado," when she was captured by the "Gerona." Like the other hands, I was cruelly treated; and from the long confinement of seven months, and bad usage, I have been rendered quite unable to follow my usual or any other occupation. I am now much afflicted with rheumatism, which I never had any experience of till said casualties happened. My wife and child during my imprisonment in Spain were in a sad state of poverty, and had to be relieved by friends.

Hoping to hear from your Honour, and that I will obtain the remuneration to which I am entitled, I am, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBERTSON.

No. 19.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Park.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 25, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant with reference to your service on board the steam-vessel "Tornado;" and, in reply, I am to inform you that until the case of that vessel is decided in Spain, the question as to whether the crew are entitled to compensation cannot be considered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 20.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Robertson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 25, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant with reference to your service on board the steam-vessel "Tornado;" and, in reply, I am to inform you that until the case of that vessel is decided in Spain, the question as to whether the crew are entitled to compensation cannot be considered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 21.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 26.)

*7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street,
London, June 26, 1868.*

My Lord,

NEARLY seven months having elapsed since we had the honour to address your Lordship with reference to our screw-steamer "Tornado," we again most respectfully call your Lordship's attention to this case, feeling assured that your Lordship can no longer permit it to remain in its present unsatisfactory and anomalous position.

We take leave to refer your Lordship to our several letters, but more particularly to the one dated 15th April, 1867,* in which we asked Her Majesty's Government to claim from the Spanish Government the immediate release of our ship, and compensation for our losses, pay of crew, &c.; also to the letters under date 13th and 27th September, and 3rd December, 1867,† in which we accept your Lordship's decision that we should go to a new trial, and lay before you our fears that justice will not be accorded to us, asking your Lordship's intercession only to obtain for us a fair trial, and prevent our being made the victims of injustice and oppression, under the guise and semblance of legal procedure.

In reference to the above letters, we respectfully submit that our fears and expectations therein expressed have been fully confirmed. No trial has taken place, no evidence has been asked for, and although it is twenty months since our steamer was illegally captured, matters are still in the same position as in August 1866, except in so far as the value to us of our vessel has depreciated, and the losses we have sustained through such illegal detention have increased.

We respectfully invite your Lordship's attention to these facts, and trust the time has arrived when your Lordship will admit a denial of justice on the part of the Spanish Government, and instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid to demand for us our rights.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

* See "Tornado" Papers, No. 7 (1867), p. 44.

† Ibid., No. 1 (1866), pp. 5 and 17.

No. 22.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, on the subject of the case of the steamer "Tornado;" and, in reply, I am to inform you that a copy of your letter will be sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, who will be instructed to report as to the cause of delay in the legal proceedings with regard to this vessel.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 23.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1868.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from Messrs. Saul Isaac, Campbell and Co.,* relating to the case of the steam-ship "Tornado," and I have to instruct you to ascertain and report to me what is the cause of the delay in the legal proceedings with regard to this vessel.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 24.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 15.)

(Extract.)

San Ildefonso, July 10, 1868.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, I have taken steps to ascertain the cause of the delay in the legal proceedings with regard to the "Tornado."

I have addressed a note to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting his Excellency to furnish me with information in regard to this matter.

The sentence pronounced by the Junta of the Department of Cadiz, condemning the "Tornado" as a good prize, has been referred by the Minister of Marine to the consideration of the Council of State, and the claimants have now, through their Counsel, addressed a petition to that body, claiming to be heard by it in their defence before it pronounces its decision, basing their claim to be so heard upon what was stated generally upon the subject of the adjudication of prizes in Spain in a note addressed to me on 11th December, 1865, by Señor Bermudez de Castro, then Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which note I had the honour to forward to the Earl of Clarendon in my despatch of the 13th of December, 1865.

The existing delay in the definitive decision of this case appears, consequently, to depend upon the time which may be taken by the Council of State to determine the question of whether the defendants are entitled or not to be so heard in their defence at this stage of the process, and the question is a legal one, which, if I am rightly informed, may give rise to discussion in that body.

No. 25.

*Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 15.)**7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street,*

My Lord,

London, July 14, 1868.

WE have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that we have received a copy of the final decision of the Prize Court, or Junta Economica, at Cadiz, by which we perceive that our ship the "Tornado" has been condemned as prize of war, and the value of the ship and appurtenances ordered for distribution amongst the captors.

We need hardly tell your Lordship that this is but a formal repetition of the finding

of the Prize Court on the 15th December, 1866. The Court has been reconstituted of the same individuals; the evidence, so far as it goes, is that which was employed upon the previous occasion.

The former decision was pronounced by the Council of State, with all the proceedings on which it was founded, to be absolutely null and void, and was branded by your Lordship, in your despatch to Sir John Crampton of the 11th of March, 1867, as such, that no subsequent decision of a Court even of appeal could "justify, rectify, or uphold it."

In the face of the recorded judgment of the Supreme Council of War and Marine, that the proceedings and finding of the Prize Court were absolutely worthless and must be quashed, the Spanish Executive thought proper to direct a new trial to be had before the same individuals who constituted the previous Court, who should be at liberty to receive as much of the so-called evidence taken at the former trial as they might think fit, evidence which had been extinguished by the decision of the Supreme Council of War and Marine, and which had been described by your Lordship as "produced behind the backs of the claimants, and wholly different in kind from the evidence afforded by the ship's papers and the depositions of the crew," and, further, as collected from "newspapers, from diplomatic correspondence, public Acts of State, the conduct of other vessels, and various other sources."

This course of procedure is as much at variance with the principles and the practice of the Spanish law, as it is opposed to natural justice. Your Lordship insisted on the nullity of the former sentence pronounced by the Spanish Prize Court, in your letter to Sir John Crampton of the 25th May, 1867, yet your Lordship has permitted the evidence on which that sentence was founded, to be used against us at the "trial" which has been just concluded. The Spanish authorities have not been slow to avail themselves of a concession which was no doubt by them wholly unexpected. The result will surprise no one.

When, in September last, we accepted your Lordship's suggestion that we should appear before the re-assembled Prize Court at Cadiz, we did so with the conviction, conveyed to your Lordship at the time in sufficiently distinct terms, that the condemnation of our ship was a foregone conclusion. The evidence which the Prize Court relied on was, as your Lordship well knows, so much of the Sumario as might suit their purpose. The only evidence it was possible for us to adduce was the sworn depositions of the captain and crew of the "Tornado," and the ship's papers; these, as your Lordship is aware, contradict the "Sumario" in every important particular. But the Spanish Prize Court wanted no investigation, they merely required an opportunity for repeating the legal farce enacted at the close of 1866: this, by your Lordship's kind permission they have been enabled to do. The Junta at the recent "trial" never formally opened their case; never informed us of the case against our ship; never examined a witness in support of the capture; contented themselves merely with setting out a portion of the condemned evidence of the Sumario. We pursued the only course open to us, namely, to protest against a Tribunal, and a course of procedure that amounts to a mere parody of justice, subversive of our rights as neutrals and British subjects, and eminently disrespectful to Her Majesty's Government. We had no additional evidence of exculpation beyond that which had been already submitted, and so with a perfect persuasion as to the result, we had no alternative but to await it.

And now, my Lord, after nearly two years of constant anxiety, cost, and disappointment, we find ourselves in a far worse position than if our ship had been condemned off hand upon her arrival in Cadiz. Your Lordship, in one of your last despatches to Sir J. Crampton (May 30, 1867), made it a condition of consenting to a new trial, that it should be "a proper judicial investigation, whatever name the Tribunal which conducts it may have."

We ask your Lordship, as the Minister responsible to the Sovereign and to Parliament for the conduct of the foreign affairs of this country, and for upholding the just rights of her citizens everywhere, if the proceedings which have just closed at Cadiz can possibly be termed "a proper judicial investigation?" and if you are content that the property of British subjects should be sacrificed upon evidence, regarded and described by your Lordship in more than one despatch, as utterly and irredeemably worthless?

We collect from the conclusion of the judgment of the Prize Court that the sentence, before it becomes operative against our ship, will require the confirmation or approval of the Government of Madrid. If we are correct in this view, we trust that, before this cruel injustice is finally perpetrated upon us in the name of the law, Her Majesty's Government may see fit to intervene. It is a mere abuse of terms, and a perversion of the plain facts of this oppressive case, to say that we have had a fair trial, or any trial at all. We have been, from first to last, as helpless before the administrators of Spanish law as our unhappy

countrymen, the crew of the "Tornado," were in the hands of their Spanish captors. Knowing, as we do, all the facts of our case, we assert before Her Majesty's Government, before the Government of Spain, and in the face of the world, that the condemnation of our ship has been accomplished in utter disregard of those facts, and in violation of those principles of international law hitherto respected by all maritime States.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 26.

Mr. Egerton to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, relative to the final decision of the Prize Court at Cadiz with regard to your vessel the "Tornado," and requesting the intervention of Her Majesty's Government with a view to prevent the sentence being confirmed by the Council of State; and I am to inform you, in reply, that your letter will be considered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 27.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 17.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, July 12, 1868.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, by which I am instructed to ascertain and report the cause of the delay in legal proceedings in the case of the "Tornado," I have the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in reply to the inquiry which I made of him on the subject, in which his Excellency states that he has made the desire of Her Majesty's Government known to the Minister of Marine, and promises to acquaint me with the result.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 27.

The Marquis of Roncali to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, July 11, 1868.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your note dated the 8th instant, in which you inform me that Her Britannic Majesty's Government is desirous of knowing the cause of the delay in the legal proceedings in the case instituted concerning the English steamer "Tornado," and what probability there may be of a definitive solution of the same.

Under date of to-day I have made the Minister of Marine acquainted with the contents of your note, and as soon as I receive his answer I shall lose no time in communicating it to you.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS RONCALI.

No. 28.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

San Ildefonso, July 14, 1868.

SEÑOR RETORTILLO apprises me that he has learned from credible sources that the Council of State has declared the "Tornado" to be a good prize; and that the representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, on the part of the owners of the vessel, intends to enter a protest to the Spanish Government against the decision of the Council of State and to appeal to me, as Her Majesty's Minister, for the protection of the rights of his clients.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 22.)

*7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street,
London, July 22, 1868.*

My Lord,

WE had recently the honour to communicate to your Lordship the sentence of condemnation passed by the Prize Court of Cadiz upon our ship the "Tornado."

We have now to announce, on the authority of advices just received from Cadiz, that this sentence of condemnation has been confirmed by the Council of State at Madrid.

We need hardly point out to your Lordship that the Council of State, which has just confirmed this sentence, reversed, not twelve months since, a precisely similar sentence, proceeding from the same Court, and resting upon precisely the same evidence.

When the proceedings before the Prize Court were renewed we protested against the constitution of that Court and the reception of the evidence taken from the Sumario, as alike opposed to the first principles of justice and to the municipal law of Spain. Our Counsel in Spain, Señor Retortillo, has lost no time in protesting against this last and most iniquitous act of the Council of State.

We beg to direct your Lordship's attention to the following extract from the despatch of General Calonge to Sir John Crampton, dated the 21st of November, 1867:—

"The owners of the prize are at full liberty to defend their interests in all stages of the suit; and if the British Government has feared the contrary, it must have been because they have not sufficiently appreciated the difference between the preliminary inquiry ('sumario') and the full inquiry ('plenario'). The measures of the former must necessarily be secret, because they are for the purpose of substantiating the fact, and of obtaining the data necessary for the qualifying of it; in the second, the suit has already arrived at that stage in which the accused uses the right of defence, and takes such measures as he may consider necessary to clear himself from the charges brought against him as the result of the preliminary proceedings; and he may also afterwards appeal against the sentence which may be given in the First Instance, and amplify in the Second Instance his defence for the sustaining of that appeal."

This was written by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs more than eighteen months since; but our property has been condemned, as we now learn, definitively, without that stage having ever arrived at which the accused, according to General Calonge, is entitled to use, "the right of defence." General Calonge's despatch, from which we make this extract, held out to Her Majesty's Government the assurance that the accused have this right, and the promise that a stage in the proceedings would arrive when it could be exercised. We, as claimants, have been defrauded of that right. We were entitled to be heard in the Prize Court at Cadiz, and again we were entitled to be heard before the sentence of condemnation was fiat by the Council of State. We have not been heard in either case; but our property has nevertheless been confiscated without regard even to that public decency which renders the formality at least of a trial imperative in every civilized State.

It is an established rule of law, as laid down by the high authority of Lord Mansfield, and since his time to the present invariably acted upon by the British Government, that "before the ship or goods can be disposed of by the captors, there must be a regular judicial proceeding wherein both parties may be heard, and condemnation thereupon as prize in the Court of Admiralty, judging by the law of nations and Treaties."—(Reply to the Prussian Memorial on Neutral Ships).

No "regular judicial proceeding" has preceded the confiscation of our property. We have been condemned on evidence taken in our absence, and which we had no opportunity of testing and rebutting; and no Court "judging by the law of nations and Treaties," has investigated and pronounced upon our case. The condemnation of our property tested by the law of nations and the usage of maritime States, we are advised, is bad, and the course of procedure to which we have been subjected, is an outrage upon public law.

We are at a loss to account for the rapidity with which the sentence of the Court below has been confirmed, unless it be that the Cabinet of Madrid, fearing the interference of the British Government, determined to close the proceedings.

We are not concerned, however, to examine into the motives of the Spanish Government. It is sufficient for us that our ship has been condemned in contemptuous defiance alike of public law, and, and of the municipal law of the country of the captors.

In your Lordship's despatches of May 25 and May 30, 1867,* to Sir John Crampton, your Lordship insisted upon the claimants "having an opportunity of being fully heard

* See "Tornado" Papers, No. 8 (1867), pp. 14 and 17.

upon any evidence" on which the Prize Court might proceed; and your Lordship was particular to state that the "objection taken by Her Majesty's Government was directed against the condemnation of the vessel, without hearing the parties interested."

We have only to repeat, that we have not been heard, and that the condemnation of our ship has proceeded (just as the evidence on which that condemnation professedly rests, was collected), "in the absence of the parties interested."

We appeal once more to Her Majesty's Government for protection against outrage and wrong deliberately planned, and as deliberately perpetrated.

Let it not be said that we have appealed in vain.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 30.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, July 19, 1868.

WITH reference to previous correspondence regarding the case of the "Tornado," I have now the honour to inclose translation of a letter which I have received from Señor Casaes, who states himself to be the representative of the owners of that vessel.

By this, your Lordship will observe, that Señor Casaes calls upon me, as Her Majesty's Minister here, to support the claims of the owners of the "Tornado" against a decision of the Spanish Council of State, by which, he informs me, it is publicly reported that the sentence pronounced against the "Tornado" by the Prize Court at Cadiz is confirmed.

Señor Casaes forwards to me with this letter the copy of a petition which was sent in by him, on the part of the owners, to the Minister of Marine on the 6th instant, claiming to be heard in their defence before the Council of State; which petition I also inclose in copy and translation.

Your Lordship will observe that the ground taken by the representative of the owners of the "Tornado" for invoking the support of Her Majesty's Government, is the alleged failure of the Spanish Government to fulfil the promise made in a note, dated the 11th of December, 1865, and addressed by me to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have informed Señor Casaes that I have received his letter and brought it under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30.

Señor Casaes y Castro to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

88, Calle de Atocha, Madrid, July 15, 1868.

AS I am the representative of the owner of the English steamer "Tornado," and am deputed by him to do all that may be necessary and proper in Madrid for the defence of his rights and interests, I now think it my duty to apply to your Excellency, both to inform you of facts which I consider important, and in order that, in view of those facts, Her Britannic Majesty's Legation may, in support of the injured rights of a British subject, take such measures as may be thought necessary, in conformity with international law, and looking to solemn obligations demanded by the Government of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and contracted by that of Her Catholic Majesty.

On the 2nd of July, the Minister of Marine submitted to the consideration of the Council of State the voluminous records of the proceedings concerning the capture of the "Tornado;" on the 11th, that High Body had already issued its opinion, for the drawing up of which it must have examined the thousands of pages composing the records of the suit; and it is publicly reported that the Council of State confirms the sentence by which the "Tornado" was declared a good prize.

Every opinion when founded on good faith is worthy of respect. As far as that goes, the owner of the vessel will say nothing against the opinion sustained by the Council of State; but, on the other hand, he can take exception to that opinion as being premature, for it was given without the legal preparation of the suit.

The necessity of the defence of accused persons is a principle admitted by all nations;

and even if it had not been admitted in Spain, it would be so, at least for the owners of captured vessels, being British Subjects, from the moment in which a solemn promise was made to that effect by the Spanish Government in the note addressed to your Excellency on 11th December, 1865. From the contents of that note it is gathered that the Spanish Government did not attach great importance to the defence made before the Special Prize Courts, nor to the sentences of those Courts, because they had to be sent up to be revised by the Council of State, before which body the accused would have a right to make a full defence.

The owner of the "Tornado" fully confided in so solemn a promise. He hoped that he should now be cited to appear before the Council of State, as in August 1867 he was cited to appear before the Court at Cadiz.

What was the surprise of his representative, when, far from being cited, he learned that the suit had passed to the Council, and that that High Body was apparently preparing to issue its opinion without hearing his defence.

Desirous of avoiding that a new fault on the part of the Spanish Government should add to the anomalies which have already taken place in this suit, and which have so materially delayed its progress, on 6th July he addressed to the Minister of Marine the respectful petition of which I inclose copy to your Excellency.

His Excellency has taken no steps, and in the meantime the Council of State has issued its opinion, without hearing the owner of the "Tornado," and in evident forgetfulness of the solemn promise of 11th December, 1865.

Against such an act the owner of the "Tornado" claims your Excellency's intervention. He does not now demand the fulfilment and observance of a Spanish law, he demands the fulfilment and observance of a solemn promise, the exercise of a right, granted in all civilized nations, which England demanded of Spain, and which Spain promised should be fully enjoyed by all subjects of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The owner of the "Tornado" has been the first victim of the non-observance of so solemn a promise; your Excellency's superior judgment, the judgment of the Representative of Great Britain, will be able to appreciate the consequences of not protesting against the precedent just established by the Spanish Government.

These brief remarks are sufficient to cause your Excellency to understand the importance of the case.

The representative of the owner of the "Tornado," in order to protect the rights of his client, and of Captain Collier, whom he also represents, begs your Excellency to be good enough to accept the foregoing narrative of facts, and the necessary protest, in order to make a Diplomatic reclamation against a sentence which rests on the non-observance of a procedure, which may well be called international, as having been established in virtue of the above-mentioned.

I remain, &c.

For the owner of the "Tornado,"

(Signed) EUSEBIO CASAES Y CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 30.

Petition.

(Translation.)

His Excellency the Minister of Marine.

I, DON EUSEBIO CASAES, in the name of the owner of the steamer "Tornado," whose power of attorney exists in the records of the case, now apply to your Excellency, for the purpose, as hitherto, of defending the rights and interests of my client.

Most Excellent Sir, a few days ago the decision of the Prize Court at Cadiz, concerning the capture of the "Tornado" was communicated to the Representative of the owner of that vessel at the said port.

The silence of the existing laws and the non-existence of any Regulation settling and determining the steps to be taken in maritime prize suits, caused the Representative above mentioned to confine himself to acknowledging the receipt of the said communication. He could do no more, and the reason why not is very simple.

Was he to appeal to the Prize Court itself? Was he simply to protest? Was he to take no step of any kind, seeing that under any circumstances the case must have come to be examined and decided by your Excellency having heard the Council of State.

Nothing settled or determined is to be found in Spanish law as to all these points, and more than this; after the promulgation of the Organic Law of the Council of State, after the declaration made by Her Majesty's Government concerning the purely adminis-

trative nature of prize matters, we do not yet even know what are the dispositions which, existing in Spanish codes, may be considered as being in force.

After the former questions come others, viz. :

When the case has been referred to the Government, ought the owner of the captured vessel to present himself of his own accord to make his defence ?

Ought he, on the contrary, to wait until he is cited ?

Will he be cited by the Government, a term being fixed for his appearance, or will that step be taken by the Council of State itself, in virtue of the character assigned to the intervention of that high body by the Government in its note of the 11th of December, 1865, addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at this Court ?

What term will be allowed for the defence ? Will it be solely and exclusively the brief term allowed to persons interested in suits with the Government, or, in consideration of the gravity of these matters, and of the great number of documents which frequently accumulate in the same, will the term be extended ?

Will the defence be verbal or written, or (as it is to be supposed) will both be allowed ?

Can the written documents be presented directly to the Council of State, or, as the matter is administrative, must they be addressed to the Government ?

What persons have a right to take part in the defence ? The owner of the vessel only, or the captain, mates, and crew also ?

Can a hearing be refused to the captain, mates, and crew, when they are accused and may possibly be condemned as prisoners of war ?

On all these points the law is silent—no regulations exist ; and yet it is necessary that the interested parties should know how the Government of Her Majesty intends to order its proceedings, for if not, the defence of their rights is rendered impossible—absolutely impossible.

It was to be hoped that conceding all those points, resolutions would have been adopted and published for the guidance of all persons, both Spaniards and foreigners. But, on the contrary, time has gone by, and this has not been done.

Such being the state of things, the Undersigned has no legal compass to steer by, and he supposes that Her Majesty's Government will have as much interest as himself in settling questions so important ; for your Excellency well knows that everything connected with the proceeding is of the most vital importance, as rights are to be guaranteed, the non-observance of which would produce nullity.

There is only one thing perfectly certain in this matter ; it is true that it is but one, but it is of enormous importance, for by itself alone it suffices on the present occasion for the protection of the rights of the owner of the "Tornado." I mean the solemn promise made by the Spanish Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Government conceding the right of all owners of captured vessels to defend themselves, not before the Prize Court, but before the Council of State.

So solemn a promise being in existence, the non-observance of which would, in my opinion, doubtless produce a true international conflict, let it be permitted to the owner of the "Tornado" to express his surprise at having heard that the case has already been submitted by the Government to the Council of State.

It is, however, to be hoped that that high Body, proceeding with all the caution rendered necessary by its importance, may, before examining and consulting on the principal question, recognize the necessity of settling those set forth above ; and above all, it is not to be feared that the Council, in disregard of the solemn obligation contracted by the Government with the Government of Great Britain, according to the above-mentioned note, will consult without previously hearing the defence of the interested parties.

Such a thing is not to be feared, but it is the duty of a representative to protect the rights of his client ; therefore, in case my client should not be heard (which is a thing not to be supposed), I protest in due form against such a proceeding, reserving to myself the right of applying to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at this Court, in order that he may support the rights of the owner of the "Tornado."

Therefore, I beg your Excellency to be good enough to order this petition to be added to the records of the case, consulting the Council of State on the said petition, should you think it necessary to do so ; to declare, or to order the proper persons to declare, the right of the owner of the "Tornado" to be heard ; and to accept, in the reverse case, the solemn protest which I hereby make.

God preserve, &c.

Madrid, July 6, 1868.

Mr. Egerton to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.

Foreign Office, August 1, 1868.

MR. EGERTON presents his compliments to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co., and with reference to the case of the "Tornado" is directed by Lord Stanley to request that, if it is possible, they will be good enough to furnish Mr. Egerton with a copy of the Petition to be heard, which was presented by them to the Council of State.

No. 32.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 4.)

*35, Harrington Square, Hampstead Road,
August 3, 1868.*

My Lord,

I TAKE the liberty of again reminding your Lordship, that I have been now waiting fifteen months (viz., from May 1867), in the hope that a settlement of the "Tornado" claim for the crew would ensue, during which time I have neither received one penny as wages or as compensation for my very heavy losses.

I have been much out of pocket, and my resources having entirely failed, I appeal to your Lordship to grant me, or recommend I should be granted, some allowance for time lost, &c.

Trusting your Lordship will take my sad case into consideration, I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 33.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 5.)

*7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street,
London, August 4, 1868.*

My Lord,

AT the interview with which your Lordship honoured a Deputation on our behalf, on Thursday last, your Lordship suggested that our Counsel, Mr. Cottingham, should submit his opinion on the present phase of the "Tornado" question, regarded from a legal point of view. We have now the honour to forward Mr. Cottingham's opinion, which seems to touch all the salient points in this prolonged case.

We observe that Mr. Cottingham has abstained from pronouncing any opinion upon the fact that the "Tornado" was seized in Portuguese waters, a point which raises a question of great importance and, as we believe, entirely in our favour.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Opinion on the case of the "Tornado," by Mr. Cottingham

AS I understand this case, in its present aspect, it is no longer a question of the merits of prize or no prize, but whether the claimants and their property have been dealt with conformably to the rules of public law and the usages of maritime States.

The right of a belligerent to seize neutral vessels on suspicion,* and to bring them to trial in a Prize Court, is conceded. But the Jurists are agreed:—

1. That a Prize Court, however constituted, in dealing with the property of neutrals,† must administer the law of nations, not the municipal law of the country of the captors; and where this rule is departed from, whatever the decision of the Prize Court, it is bad and has no binding force upon the subjects of a foreign State—and the reason of this is obvious; "Ordinary Municipal Tribunals," says Wheaton, "acquire jurisdiction over the person or property of a foreigner by his consent, either expressed by his voluntarily

* Reply to the Russian Memorial concerning Neutral Ships, 1763. Harg. Coll. Jar., 134.

† *Schaecht v. Otter*, 9 Moore P. C. C., p. 156.

bringing the suit, or implied by the fact of his bringing his person or property within the territory.”* But when Courts of Prize exercise their jurisdiction over vessels captured at sea, the property of foreigners is brought, by force, within the territory of the State by which the Tribunals are constituted.

2. That the claimants are entitled, in the last resort, to an appeal to the Supreme Tribunal of the country of the captors.

3. That neutrals, as members of a foreign State,† are only bound to submit to the jurisdiction of a Prize Court or Court of Appeal therefrom, so far as that jurisdiction is exercised agreeably to the law of nations and the provisions of particular Treaties.

The Spanish law of prize,‡ and the constitution of the Prize Courts of Spain, are fully set out in the opinion of the Spanish Counsel retained in this case by the claimants. From this opinion it appears that, although the constitution of the Spanish Prize Court is peculiar, the claimants have, by the Spanish law, a *locus standi* before those Tribunals. “An audience must be given to the owners, the captain, and the crew of the vessel all interested in the declaration of the legality or nullity of the prize. The captain, as is known, represents the owners for legal purposes, and may state, in their name, what he may consider requisite for their rights and interests. According to good principles the communications and objections from the Consul of the neutral nation to which the vessel belongs, ought to be added to the case. In the further course of the case there ought also to be given to the defence of the captured whatever extension may be necessary and is not opposed to our laws.”

As I am acquainted with the facts of this case, neither the requirements of International law nor of the Spanish law have been complied with, so far as the claimants are concerned. The constitution of the Spanish Prize Court is not only peculiar but unlike that of other Maritime States. The practice of international law has been departed from inasmuch as the claimants have not been heard before the Court of First Instance at Cadiz, nor has the opportunity of being heard been afforded them; and they have also been denied that right of appeal which England, France, the United States, and even Spain herself, have reserved to all claimants in the position of the owners of the “Tornado.” Whatever, therefore, may be the constitution of the Spanish Courts of Prize, or whatever the mode of procedure adopted by those Courts, the municipal law of Spain cannot be permitted to over-ride the law of nations in dealing with the property of foreigners and neutrals. Nor can the Spanish Government be permitted, while ignoring that law, to ignore at the same time their engagements to this country as set out in the notes of the Spanish Minister of State of the 11th December, 1865, and of General Calonge of the 21st November, 1867.

I am, therefore, clearly of opinion that in this case the claimants, owners of the “Tornado,” have not had the benefit of the Tribunal nor the course of procedure to which, as neutrals, they are undoubtedly entitled by the rules of public law; and, as I understand it, by the law of Spain; that they are in the position of parties who have been condemned unheard, and almost unrepresented; and that the case, as it stands, has reached that stage in which the two States of England and Spain become the only parties to the controversy, and when a demand for restitution of the property seems to be the imperative duty of the British Government.

(Signed) C. J. COTTINGHAM.

August 1, 1868.

No. 34.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Collier.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, and in reply I am to express to you his Lordship's regret that he is unable to make you any allowance or to obtain one for you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

* Wheaton, E. I. L., p. 462.

† Rutherford's Just., vol. ii, b. 2.

‡ “Tornado” Correspondence, Part II, pp. 1 to 11.

No. 35.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 12.)

My Lord,

35, Harrington Square, Hampstead Road,
August 6, 1868.

I AM in receipt of your letter dated to-day, stating that your Lordship regrets that you cannot make me any allowance or obtain one for me. I beg most respectfully to remind your Lordship that John McPherson, third mate of the "Tornado," although detained as a prisoner of war in Spain, received his support as a distressed British seaman from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Cadiz. Your Lordship must be aware that the (late) whole crew of the "Tornado" look to me as their representative, and were I to leave the country they would have nobody to fall back upon who would watch their interests to the same extent; so I trust your Lordship will see at once my hard position, and, if possible, do something either to ensure me an allowance, or recommend me to take such a course as would accomplish that end.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 36.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 15.)

My Lord,

7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street,
London, August 11, 1868.

THE absence from London of our Mr. Saul Isaac, who has the management of the "Tornado" case, has prevented our replying earlier to the letter addressed to us by Mr. Egerton, by your Lordship's direction, on the 1st instant, in which he asks to be furnished with "a copy of the petition to be heard which was presented by us to the Council of State." We regret that we do not understand what petition is required, but if your Lordship will favour us with particulars and dates we will with pleasure furnish you with this or any other documents you may desire.

Herewith we have the honour to inclose a translation of the protest presented in October 1867, which probably is the one required. We shall feel obliged if your Lordship will have the inclosures returned to us at your early convenience.

We avail ourselves of this communication to send your Lordship an extract from a letter received from our representative at Cadiz, under date the 15th of July, 1868, as follows:—

"I have now to inform you that the Consejo de Estado has definitively condemned the 'Tornado' as a legal prize. Retortillo has of course protested before the Spanish Government, as the person who declared himself the owner of the vessel had a right to be heard before the sentence of condemnation was passed by that Tribunal. He has also advised Sir John Crampton of what has taken place."

By this your Lordship will see that the condemnation has been confirmed by the Council of State behind our backs, and in direct contradiction of the promises made by General Calonge to Sir John Crampton, as well as of the protests made by your Lordship.

Señor Retortillo has again protested against the course adopted by the Spanish Government, and in this stage of the case we respectfully but firmly demand the protection of Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

Inclosure in No. 36.

Protest.

(Translation.)

To his Excellency the Minister of Marine.

DON GUILLERMO McPHERSON, an inhabitant of Cadiz, in the name Mr. Saul Isaac, an inhabitant of London, and the owner of the steamer "Tornado," of English flag, hereby, and with the greatest respect, presents himself to your Excellency in demand of

justice, which, to his great grief, is not administered to him by the Junta Economica of the Department of Cadiz, now constituted into a Tribunal of Prizes.

For many months already your Excellency has there weighed unjustly upon the owner of the "Tornado" a serious charge, to the great detriment of his interests, namely, that the said vessel does not belong to the merchant service of Great Britain, as set forth by her documentary papers and her flag, but to the war navy of the Republic of Chile; the desire of him who now writes to make patent the injustice and want of foundation of this accusation has ever failed against the irregular and illegal conduct of the Tribunal of Prizes of Cadiz; and the position of the owner of the "Tornado" has been all the more hard and grievous from the fact that, during the long period elapsed since the capture of the ship, pains have been persistently taken (by whom let it not be said) to induce public opinion to believe that the delay in the due course of the judicial proceedings has been due to the unfounded opposition of the Undersigned, to bad faith on his part, and to various pretences, and not to legal motives set forth by his lawyers engaged for the defence.

In carrying this impression to be received by public opinion there has been so studied a persistence that even the articles of Captain Collier, combatting such malevolent assertions, have not been allowed to circulate in the public press, and for this reason he has obtained that his judicial and official motions against so strange a fact should be adjudicated on; permission has been withheld from the circulation and distribution of the pamphlet which he wrote in self-defence; and not only was the profuse distribution permitted of one drawn up by known adversaries, but there has also been translated into the Spanish language another pamphlet written in the English tongue, a knowledge of the contents of which it was sought to make general, in order, doubtless, to injure still more the position of the owners of the "Tornado" in the face of the Spanish nation, at war with the Republic of Chile.

Deep has been the grief caused by this conduct to the owners of the "Tornado," a conduct which reflects upon the nobility and high feeling of the Spanish public, and which, for that reason, they can but attribute to persons who in the presence of their self-interest, or their egotism, wounded by their own ignorance, are forgetting those noble qualities distinctive of the Spanish character.

The owners of the "Tornado" have ever rested on the justice of their cause, or the legality of their claims; they have at all times placed an entire trust in the belief that the law would make itself heard, silencing any personal feelings; and, in good truth, your Excellency, they have obtained (though not in so complete a sense for the time being as they had a right to hope for) a triumph which becomes converted into an utter defeat for their adversaries.

This triumph has been all the more important from the fact of its having been conceded to them by the most exalted and most respectable corporations of the nation, to wit, by the Council of State, with whose judgment your Excellency has coincided, as is apparent from the Royal Order of the 27th July, which is contained in the judicial proceedings of the capture of the "Tornado," and by the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine in the executory sentence of the 23rd of May.

It was thought by the Senior Auditor of Marine of the Department of Cadiz, it was thought by the Junta Economica of the same, it was thought by the captors of the vessel aforesaid, under the advice of the Dean of the Faculty of Right of the University of Seville, that the defensive proceedings on behalf of the "Tornado" had fallen into the most serious errors; and there were even some persons who went so far as to surmise whether these errors were voluntary: that is to say, whether there were malice on the part of those who were conducting the defence of Captain Collier; but now, all have been obliged to become silent in the presence of the judgment of the Council of State, and the sentence above referred to.

Was there any ignorance, was there any malice, was there any want of patriotism, in maintaining that the judicial proceedings referring to prizes were Governmental? (*i.e.* referable to the Supreme Government).

If so, it would at the present time be imperative for those who advance such an opinion also to assert that the taint of such ignorance, of such malice, of such want of patriotism, likewise attached to the First Consultative Corporation of the Nation, *viz.*, the Council of State, that exalted Body composed of functionaries grown grey in the service of their country, or of men who have specially distinguished them in promoting the welfare of national interests.

Was there any evidence of ignorance, was there any evidence of malice, was there any evidence of want of patriotism in the exposition formally drawn up by the owners of the "Tornado," under the direction of their lawyers, regarding the null and void character of the proceedings gone forward?

If so, then ought the adversaries of the "Tornado" now to bring forward charges of similar ignorance, of similar malice, of similar want of patriotism, against the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine; against those independent magistrates, who, to the honour of the Spanish Toga, dictated the sentence of the 23rd of May last, declaring null and void all that had already taken place in the judgment upon the "Tornado."

More could be said by the Undersigned, were he willing to continue in this train of reflections; but let the preceding ones be sufficient for his purpose, he being certain that they will set forth before your Excellency the full extent of the unjustifiable attacks which have been aimed at those who, in fulfilment of their duty, either as representatives of the rights of the "Tornado," or as judicial advisers, have upheld the privileges of reason, of justice, and of law.

It has been pointed out by the Undersigned that the triumph achieved by the owner of the vessel in question has not been so complete as he thought he had a right to expect, and he now proceeds to explain this expression.

The sentence issued by the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine on the 23rd of May of the present year, declared null and void all that had been already done in the judicial proceedings referring to the capture of the "Tornado."

It is so recognized by the Council of State in its sentence, as inserted in the Royal Order of the 27th of July; but yet, and nevertheless, your Excellency has been pleased to direct that there should be held as valid all that has taken place up to folio No. 25 of the record of proceedings, on the ground that whereas, on the one hand, it is void in the judicial character; on the other hand, it may still retain its force as an administrative proceeding.

This is a fiction, your Excellency, in contradiction to the existing law, that the Undersigned cannot admit; he would be showing, in his own person, but little respect for the executive powers of a Tribunal; he would be a consenting party to the ignoring of an universal principal of right; he would suffer injury to be done to what personally attaches to him in this case, were he not to protest against this portion of the Royal Order of the 27th of July.

He who is now writing is not unaware that, in accordance with the laws, this Royal Order, decreed as a final resolution in the routine of Governmental proceedings, and on a question of rights claimed from the same, cannot be revoked by your Excellency, and for this reason he does not formally advance any such pretension. He well knows that, in order to make good his injured rights, he is compelled to have recourse to contentious course of proceedings; of this he will avail himself, making use of the legal boundaries: and, inasmuch as, in the contentious course, the matter under consideration will be precisely the most important that, at the present time, can be raised, and that is, as to the validity or the nullity of what has already taken place, as forming the basis of ulterior proceedings, he now finds himself under the necessity, to himself most painful, of soliciting that the further course of the judicial proceedings be suspended until such time as there may be a final sentence declared in form by a Royal Decree—a sentence, in fact, upon the grave and prominent question now put forward; grave and prominent inasmuch as it addresses itself to the instructing of the power executive, in the sphere of the power judicial; to the sacredness of the master under judgment; to the stability or instability, in a judicial sense, of the declarations of a solemn executive.

But, setting aside the foregoing considerations, the Undersigned finds himself now under the necessity of appealing to your Excellency, by reason of the illegal proceedings of the Junta Economica of the Department of Cadiz.

Not content with the conduct they previously had pursued, and which was animadverted on by the Council of State in the sentence in which your Excellency has coincided; not content with the reminder which your Excellency addressed to them with respect to certain legal steps which they had previously ignored, notwithstanding the observations offered by Captain Collier . . . they now go still further, and do not even comply with the positive instructions contained in the Royal Order of Her Majesty of the 27th of July.

It is not incumbent upon the Undersigned to comment upon such a course of proceeding, as bearing upon the duties, of duty and subordination towards the Supreme Hierarchy, as represented by your Excellency. As a foreign subject it does not befit him to make any remarks in such a sense, and least of all to your Excellency, inasmuch as it is precisely your Excellency's authority (or that of Her Majesty, whom God preserve, and in whose name the Royal Order is issued), that may be considered as assailed; but it does behove him to make observations in this point of view, viz., that certain rights having been conceded to the Undersigned, in the Royal Resolution, these have not been respected by the Junta of the Department.

In order to draw up a minute narrative of the facts, it would be necessary for the Undersigned to reproduce in this place the statement presented to the Junta; and as, no doubt, your Excellency, in order to attach to this occurrence its true value, will cause to be laid before him the original judicial documents, the Undersigned will confine his task to a very brief summary of the infractions of the Royal Order committed by the Junta, which are as follows:—

1. That they have retained, as forming part of the judicial case, all the proceedings that have taken place subsequent to the 25th folio of the record, the same having been declared null and void by the above-mentioned Royal Order, in No. 5 of its Resolutions.

2. That they have cited the parties interested in the rights of the steamer "Tornado," according to the edict of the 16th of August, to present their defence; thus infringing what was positively ordained by the Resolutions No. 2 and 5 of the said Royal Order.

3. That they have retained the judicial forms in their proceedings, notwithstanding the Governmental character which said Royal Order has declared the process ought to assume.

4. That they have retained the intervention of the Notary to the Judges' Court, whereas the Royal Order has determined that the Tribunal should be constituted by the Junta Economica of the Department, and that, of said Junta, the aforesaid functionary forms no part; his presence, moreover, being prejudicial to the owners of the "Tornado," especially, if owing to his presence or intervention, he becomes entitled to fees in accordance with the Notarial Tariff.

5. That they have retained in its force and vigour a resolution, which taken either as a judicial sentence, or as a Governmental determination, is null and void, owing to its being subsequent to folio 25 of the record of proceedings, which is the detention in the character of a prisoner of war of one of the crew of the "Tornado."

Upon the grounds thus set forth as succinctly as possible, the Undersigned prays your Excellency to be pleased to summon to his personal examination the original judicial process, which is permanently deposited in the hands of the Junta Economica of the Department of Cadiz; and, after accepting the protests presented to the latter by the Undersigned, to issue his resolutions upon what, in accordance with law and justice, the Undersigned has solicited; adopting at the same time whatever other determinations your Excellency may judge expedient with reference to the irregular proceedings of the said Corporation in not rendering exact compliance with the orders of Her Majesty.

At the same time, the Undersigned, having to lay before the Council of State the corresponding claim touching the previous question of the nullity of former proceedings already passed, and upon which the Royal Order of the 27th of July has resolved, to the detriment of the rights which appertain to him; he, the Undersigned, likewise prays that, without prejudice to what your Excellency may resolve as regarding the other points, you may be pleased to command the suspension of the proceedings pending such time as may elapse, until, through the contentious course of proceeding, the pre-eminent question above referred to be decided. He hopes as much from the justice of your Excellency, whose life may God preserve for many years.

Cadiz, October 1867.

No. 37.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Collier.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant; and I am to state to you, in reply, that his Lordship regrets that it is out of his power to do anything for you. Relief was extended to John McPherson as a British subject in distressed circumstances abroad, but such relief cannot be extended to a person in England.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 20, 1868.

IT does not appear that the Spanish Government have returned any answer to the inquiry which you addressed to them on the 8th of July, for information as to the cause of delay in the legal proceedings in the case of the "Tornado," although, from your despatch of the 19th of July, it would seem that the agents of the parties interested in the vessel were under the impression that the Council of State had declared the vessel to be a good prize; and that those Agents intended to protest against the proceeding as being inconsistent with the engagements taken by the Spanish Government to give the parties full opportunity of making their defence.

I inclose copies of letters to the same effect which I have received from the parties in this country.*

The whole of the papers to which I have now alluded have been laid before the Law Officers of the Crown.

Her Majesty's Government are not in possession of the proceedings before the Prize Court at Cadiz, which, in their letter of the 14th of July, Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. state to have resulted in the condemnation of the vessel.

It does not, however, appear very clearly from their letter what course was taken by them before the Court at Cadiz. As far as can be made out from its contents, they would seem to have appeared before the Court, to have protested, but taken no further part in the proceedings. They had the opportunity of being heard but did not avail themselves of it, because, as they represent, with a perfect consciousness of their own innocence, they knew that the vessel would be condemned.

It appears by the statements of the parties, that after sentence was pronounced in the Prize Court, it was referred by the Minister of Marine to the Council of State, but whether for revision or only for advice, whether the sentence should or should not be confirmed, is not clear.

The parties appear further to have petitioned to be heard before the Council of State, but it seems not to be known whether by the law of Spain there is any right of appeal, and if there be any such right, what is the proper mode of proceeding to act upon it.

Of course, if there be a right of appeal by law, and if the claimants without default on their part are deprived of that right by the action of the Spanish Government, there would be ground for serious remonstrance; but such is not the present aspect of the case.

It is contended, however, on behalf of the parties that, independently of any question of law, such solemn assurances have been given by the Spanish Government to that of Her Majesty, that an appeal to the Council of State was permitted in prize cases, that Her Majesty's Government are entitled, in virtue of those assurances, to insist on an appeal being allowed.

The first assurance is that contained in the letter addressed to you by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 11th of December, 1865, in the course of your correspondence with him respecting the holding of Prize Courts on board Spanish vessels of war, for the adjudication of captures in the Pacific, in which the Spanish Minister maintains that there can be no ground for harbouring any suspicion of injustice in the decisions of the Tribunal over which the Spanish Naval Commander would preside, "considering that they will have to receive the confirmation of the Council of State, before which is allowed the most ample defence of the captured vessels."

The other assurance relied upon is that contained in General Calonge's letter to you of the 21st of November, 1866, in which, with special reference to the case of the "Tornado" and the constitution of the Prize Court at Cadiz, and speaking of the preliminary inquiry ("sumario") and the full inquiry ("plenario"), he says: "The measures of the former must necessarily be secret, because they are for the purpose of substantiating the fact, and of obtaining the data necessary for the qualifying of it; in the second the suit has already arrived at that stage in which the accused uses the right of defence, and takes such measures as he may consider necessary to clear himself from the charges brought against him as the result of the preliminary proceedings; and he may also afterwards appeal against the sentence which may be given in the first instance, and amplify, in the second instance, his defence for the sustaining of that appeal." And further, "For the rest, you may assure

* Nos. 25, 29, and 33.

the British Government that without the necessity of any apprehension, and in fulfilment of the existing laws, the Tribunal will take care that none of the parties shall be deprived of the legitimate means of defence, permitting the owners of the prize to employ Counsel, and to hold direct communication with the British Consul in Cadiz, so far as the law may allow."

These passages certainly amount to an authoritative statement that an appeal in prize cases is allowed, and I have accordingly to instruct you, if necessary, to call attention to them, and to urge on the Spanish Government that the privilege of appealing, which is said to be secured to a claimant, and of which the claimants in the case of the "Tornado" are desirous of availing themselves before any sentence is enforced, should be allowed to them, so that the representations made to Her Majesty's Government as to the law and practice of Spain in such cases may be fulfilled.

In answering the letters of which copies are inclosed, I shall merely inform the parties that I have instructed you to put yourself in communication with the Spanish Government in order to ascertain why an appeal has not been, or should not be, allowed to them.

I will only further observe that Her Majesty's Government cannot agree in the views of the Advocate whose opinion is contained in Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.'s letter of the 4th instant. He assumes that the claimants have been condemned unheard and without having had the opportunity of being heard; whereas it would seem that they had the opportunity of being heard, but refused to avail themselves of it: neither can Her Majesty's Government, as at present informed, assume that the law of Spain has been departed from by a refusal to allow an appeal, the right to which exists by the law of Spain.

If such right does exist by law and has been denied, there is doubtless a clear ground for remonstrating against the denial; but the doubt whether such a right does exist by law makes the case very difficult to deal with.

I have thought it right not to delay putting you in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government on the state of the case as presented in your despatches and in the letters of the parties to which I have referred, even though I have not, as yet, before me the answer of the Spanish Government to the inquiry as to the state of the case which you made on the 8th of July, and which, on the 11th of that month, the Minister for Foreign Affairs informed you had been referred by him for an answer to his colleague the Minister of Marine.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 39.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 20, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to state to you, with reference to your letters of the 14th and 22nd of July and 4th of August, that Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid has been instructed to communicate with the Spanish Government in order to ascertain why an appeal has not been, or should not be, allowed to the parties interested in the case of the "Tornado."

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 40.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Forbes Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of the 29th of May last, calling attention to the claims upon the Government of Spain of the crew of the "Tornado," I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that, after having consulted the proper Law Advisers of the Crown, his Lordship considers that the final issue of the proceedings in the "Tornado" case must be awaited before any decision is arrived at as to the course to be adopted with reference to the claims of members of the crew for compensation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Mr. Forbes Campbell to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 25.)

My Lord,

45, Dover Street, Piccadilly, London, August 24, 1868.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of this date in reply to my application of the 29th of May last on behalf of the crew of the "Tornado."

From that despatch I regret to learn that your Lordship considers the final issue of the proceedings in the "Tornado" case must be awaited before any decision is arrived at with reference to the claim of the crew for compensation, although such claim was, under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, formally made by Sir John Crampton on the 11th of February, 1867.

In the last paragraph of my letter of the 29th of May, I reminded your Lordship of the fact that no portion of the personal effects, worth 1,093*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* sterling, of which the "Tornado's" crew were robbed (as set forth in the affidavit of the 6th of March, 1867. See page 56 of Part II of "Tornado" Correspondence, 1867), has been restored to them.

I beg leave to ask your Lordship whether, irrespective of their claim to indemnification for illegal detention, close imprisonment, and barbarous ill-usage, the crew were not as clearly entitled to the restitution of their personal effects as they were to their personal liberty; and if I am to understand that Her Majesty's Government decline to adopt any steps for the recovery of their stolen property until the protracted and dilatory proceedings shall have terminated?

Captain Collier, who was robbed of 509*l.* 10*s.*, and several other members of the crew, are seriously inconvenienced by the non-restitution of the property of which they were piratically plundered two years ago.

There was a time when such a flagrant outrage on the British flag and British steamer would not have remained so long unredressed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. FORBES CAMPBELL.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Forbes Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 31, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, expressing regret that the final issue of the proceedings in the "Tornado" case must be awaited before any decision is arrived at with reference to the claim of the crew for compensation, and adverting to their claim for loss of property; and I am to state to you in reply, that your letter will be considered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 31.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, August 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th instant respecting the "Tornado."

I shall lose no time in collecting from authentic sources the information which Her Majesty's Government desires to obtain in regard to the state of the legal proceedings in this case, and in regard to certain rights to which under the laws of Spain the claimants hold that they are entitled.

I have, however, at once addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs a fresh note, herewith inclosed in copy, pressing his Excellency to cause me to be furnished with the information regarding this matter, for which I applied to him in my note of the 8th ultimo.

In the meantime I may state to your Lordship that, as I understand upon competent authority, the present position of the matter is this:—

The Prize Court at Cadiz having pronounced their decision, in an administrative and not in a judiciary capacity, it is to be observed, reported the same to the Minister of

Marine, it being a matter for the Government to decide, whether or not such sentence should become executory. That Minister, however, before bringing the question before his colleagues in the Council of Ministers, thought proper to submit it previously to the Council of State for their advice thereupon, a measure usual in matters of importance, but not compulsory upon the Government to adopt.

The Council of State has, we are informed, given its advice confirmatory of the sentence of the Prize Court of Cadiz.

The next step, therefore, will be that by which the matter will be brought before the Council of Ministers for the final decision of the Spanish Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Sir J. Crampton to the Marquis Roncali.

M. le Ministre,

San Ildefonso, August 24, 1868.

WITH reference to the note which I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 8th ultimo respecting the "Tornado," I have now to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have again instructed me to ascertain and report to them the nature and present position of the proceedings in this case.

I shall therefore feel particularly obliged by your Excellency being so good as to cause me to be furnished with such information in regard to this matter as may enable me to satisfy the inquiries of my Government in regard to this now long protracted case.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 44.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 5.)

7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,

September 4, 1868.

My Lord,

WE have just received, and have the honour to place before your Lordship the translation of the final condemnation of our screw-steamer "Tornado," bearing date the 13th August.

Referring to the lengthened correspondence we have had with your Lordship on this subject, we now await, without anxiety, your Lordship's further communications, being satisfied that you will, without delay, adopt effective measures to enforce our just demands for indemnification.

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL, AND Co.

Inclosure in No. 44.

Decree.

(Translation.)

President, San Gil; Counsel, Ramos Izquierdo; Messrs. Ory, Gattier, Correa; Auditor, Telo.

San Fernando, August 13, 1868.

A REPORT having been furnished by me the Undersigned, Secretary to the Most Excellent the Junta Economica of the Department, as constituted into a Tribunal of Prizes, convoked for the purpose by his Excellency the Captain-General, President, of the Royal Order bearing date 30th July last, by which Her Majesty, in accordance with the deliberations of the Council of State sitting in full Congress, and in conformity with the opinion of the Council of Ministers, has been pleased to confirm the decision pronounced by this Junta, as constituted into a Tribunal of Prizes, of the 4th of June, by which the detention of the "Tornado" was declared lawful, and the said ship herself a rightful

prize, together with all and everything appertaining to her, and that her value, after deduction of expenses, should be distributed amongst the captors, subject to regular apportionment; also that this, her sovereign resolution, should be made known to the parties concerned on either side, and that on the part of the Tribunal due proceedings should be taken towards the necessary measures for proper execution. The Junta, having taken cognizance of all the foregoing, and having given a hearing, *vivá voce*, to the Auditor of the Department, and having made itself sufficiently acquainted with all matters hereto appertaining, passed a Resolution to afford due fulfilment to the above-mentioned Sovereign Decree, ordaining that it should be observed and carried out in all its parts, to which end, and after deliberations having taken place with due care, likewise after giving a hearing to the Auditor of the Department, it resolved upon the following points:—

1. That an acknowledgment should be forwarded to his Excellency the Captain-General of the Department, not only of the receipt of the Royal Order aforesaid, as also of the various documents of which the Report of these proceedings is composed, to the exclusion, however, of those which are pointed out in the note which is placed at the end of the Inventory which precedes the Royal Order.

2. That said Resolution should be notified, or made public, a copy of the same being furnished to the Lieutenant of the Navy, Don Manuel de Bustillo, the navigating officer to the prize, and likewise at the same time holding the authority of the captors; as also to Dr. William MacPherson, an inhabitant and merchant of Cadiz, as holding power of attorney from Mr. Saul Isaac, who has been one of the parties in these proceedings, the needful order to such effect being furnished by his Excellency the President to his Excellency the Commandant of Marine of the Province of Cadiz, to whom there should likewise be forwarded a copy of the Royal Order aforesaid, instructions being given that a receipt should be required from the party interested, in order that the same may be forwarded to this Junta, for the purpose of being added to the other papers of these proceedings.

3. That the necessary steps should be taken for the valuation of the ship “Tornado,” and of whatsoever appertains to her, by the corps of Royal Engineers, with the assistance of such foremen of the Arsenal as may be necessary, the needful orders being issued by his Excellency the President to the Commandant of Engineers, in order that this service may have the most perfect fulfilment.

4. That, in order to facilitate the proceedings contingent upon the foregoing Resolution without detriment to the service of the Arsenal, notice should be given to the navigating officer of the prize, in order that he may convey, for account of the same, the steam-vessel “Tornado” to the Depôt of San Fernando, placing her on the berth which may be pointed out to him by his Excellency the Commandant of the Arsenal; he, after so doing, proceeding to the unloading of the effects which she contains, in order that the vessel may be surveyed, and valued with the utmost exactness, the said effects being deposited in the unoccupied warehouses of said Arsenal, all, as above, being at the expense of the prize, and without any detriment to the public service, and under the intervention of the Administration of Customs, to which end the necessary official communication is to be forwarded to the Administrator of Customs at Cadiz.

5. That, accordingly, as the said effects progress in being unloaded and deposited, an inventory should be taken of them, there being the same intervention as aforesaid, authority being given to the Secretary undersigned, to the end that, if the requirements of the service do not allow him to be present, or to lend his authority to proceedings which naturally will have to take up much time, he may name such person as, without detriment to the public service, may give his presence to them, as also his authority.

6. That the necessary measures be taken for the taxation of the expenses incurred up to the present time; to which end, and, in order that the legal duties upon the facts that have taken place may be marked out in accordance with the Tariff, and such as were consecutively presented before the Notary of Marine, and adjudicated on by the Tercio of Cadiz, and also before the principal Notary of this Department, let the necessary corresponding documents be exhibited to them at the office of the Secretary to the Junta, in order that they respectively may check and verify the taxations in the matter aforesaid. Also, let notice be given to the navigating officer of the prize to present a list by name of the officers, engineers, and others of the crew of the ship, from the time of the capture down to the present date, with a statement of the time that each one has remained.

7. That official notice be given to the interpreters, in order that they may present the accounts of their fees, as also to her Excellency the widow, and to the heirs of his Excellency Lieutenant-General Don José Quesada y Berdelonga, late Captain-General of this Department, in order that they may present the account of the expenses which it is notoriously known his Excellency incurred in this business.

8, and lastly. That, taking into consideration the great volume of the documents already in this case, the present documents should run separate from those connected with the proceedings originally instituted towards the execution of the aforesaid Royal Order.

So it has been resolved by the individuals named above in the margin, who sign as follows, and to which I certify.

(Signed) SAN GIL.
RAMOS IZQUIERDO.
ORY.
GATTIER.
CORREA.
TELO.
Per the Secretary, the 2d,
BENITO BUITRAZO.

No. 45.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing the text and translation of a Decree condemning the "Tornado" as a prize; and I am to state to you, in reply, that the matter will be considered as soon as a report from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, which is shortly expected, is received.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 46.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 7.)

My Lord,

*1, Hurdwicke Place, Hampstead Road,
September 5, 1868.*

I ONCE more appeal to your Lordship to assist me, if it is only in recovering from the Spanish Government the amount of the property I have lost, as I am perfectly unable to obtain any employment, as I am without means to provide myself with the things that are actually necessary to take command of a vessel. I need not add that for some time I have been in a starving condition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 47.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, September 3, 1868.

WITH reference to my telegram of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship copy of the note which I have received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting to me a copy of the definitive sentence pronouncing the "Tornado" to be a good prize.

This latter document will be forwarded to your Lordship as soon as a translation of it can be made.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 47.

The Marquis Roncali to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Lequeitio, August 25, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of the Royal Order of 30th July, by which, after the opinion of the Council of State had been heard, the sentence of the 4th of June last, declaring the capture of the "Tornado" to be legal, and the ship and all belonging to her a good prize, is confirmed.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS RONCALI.

No. 48.

Mr. Egerton to Captain Collier.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 10, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 49.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, September 6, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 3rd instant, I have now the honour to inclose copy and translation of the Report of the Spanish Minister of Marine to the Minister of State and Foreign Affairs, announcing the definitive confirmation of the sentence of the Tribunal at Cadiz, by which the "Tornado" is declared to be a good prize, and forfeited to the Spanish Government.

The Minister of Marine therein makes known to his colleague that the Council of State having received the Records of the proceedings of the Prize Court respecting the capture of the "Tornado;" having considered that the appeals of the defendants had received proper attention; that the defects of the suit had been remedied by its having been given its proper administrative character; that the proceedings were complete, all legal requisites prescribed by the Ordinances having been observed; and that sufficient time had been granted to the defendants to make their defence; and considering, consequently, that the time had come for enouncing their opinion, in order that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty may confirm or revoke the sentence of the Prize Court as may appear to them to be just, after referring in a summary manner to the main facts of the case, established in their opinion by conclusive evidence, proposed to the Minister of the Marine that the said sentence should be confirmed.

The Minister of the Marine concludes his Report by stating that the Queen, agreeing with the opinion of the Council of State, and in conformity with that of her Council of Ministers, had accordingly ratified the decision of the Prize Court at Cadiz given on the 4th June last.

I have instituted inquiries with a view to elucidate more fully the points referred to in your Lordship's despatch No. 94, respecting the legal proceedings in this case and the rights of defence and of appeal which may under Spanish law appertain to the defendants, as well as to the manner in which they may have availed themselves of those rights, or in how far they may have been prevented, or have abstained from so doing.

I shall not fail to make known the result to your Lordship so soon as I become acquainted with it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 49.

Señor Belda to the Marquis Roncali.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, July 30, 1868.

I HAVE this day made the following communication to the Captain-General of the Department of Cadiz, President to the Prize Court there sitting:—

“The Council of State in full session having received, for deliberation thereon, the records of the proceedings taken by the ‘Junta Economica’ of the Department of Cadiz, constituted as a Prize Court, with regard to the legality of the detention of the steamer ‘Tornado,’ and to the validity of her capture made in the night of the 22nd August, 1866, by the frigate ‘Gerona,’ commanded by Post-Captain Don Benito Riuz de la Escalera, for the double reason that the said vessel was contraband of war on account of her peculiar build and of her destination, and that she was suspected to be hostile, the said distinguished Body gave the following opinion on the 11th instant:

“ ‘Most Excellent Sir,

“ ‘The Council has with all proper care examined the different documents composing the records of the proceedings taken with regard to the capture of the steamer “Tornado,” made by the frigate “Gerona,” in the night of the 22nd August, 1866. And in fulfilment of the Royal Order of the 2nd instant, and in the exercise of one of the attributions conferred on this distinguished Body by Article 45 of its Organic Law.

“ ‘For the purpose of giving your Excellency information as to the legality of the said capture, the Council will not stay to explain the steps that have been gone through in this matter, for that has been already done on former occasions of consultation; nor will the Council make mention of the different appeals made by the defendants, for, as those appeals have received all proper attention, and as the defects of the suit have been remedied, and it has duly received its proper administrative character, the present state of the case demands that it should now be finally settled.

“ ‘Starting, then, from the principle that the proceedings are complete, all legal requisites prescribed by the Ordinances having been observed, and in view of the fact that the Junta of the Department of Cadiz delivered sentence, after having granted the defendants sufficient time for their defence, the moment has arrived for the Council of State to issue its opinion, so that Her Majesty’s Government may confirm or revoke the said sentence, according as it may appear to them to be just in their high judgment.

“ ‘Nor will the Council stay to make a long narration of all that results from the records of the case for the purpose of showing that, if the detention of the “Tornado” on the night of the 22nd August, 1866, was right and proper, the declaration of the ship as a good prize is not less legal. For on that head the account of the facts and of the legal considerations and bases, set forth with wonderful exactness and precision by the Auditor of the Department in his Reports of the 6th December, 1866, and 11th December, 1867, leaves nothing to be desired, and contains everything that results from the records with regard to the news previously received by the Government to the effect that the “Tornado” had been bought by the Chilean Government, and also everything concerning the manner of her capture, as well as the Sumario, in which it has been fully proved that the ship belonged to that hostile State, and, in fact, everything necessary for the formation of an exact opinion concerning the legality of the capture.

“ ‘It will, however, be as well to make some broad remarks concerning that which results from the records of the proceedings.

“ ‘On the 29th November and 8th December, 1865, the Spanish Minister Plenipotentiary in London informed the Minister of State that in the Clyde at Glasgow two privateers were being prepared for the Chilean Government, one of them being the steamer “Pampero,” afterwards called the “Tornado,” which was being got ready very secretly.

“ ‘The Chief of the Marine Commission, and the Spanish Legation, afterwards gave notice to the Government, that men were being got together in that country for the manning of Chilean ships, giving a detailed account of the circumstances of the case, which coincided with other information received from the Spanish Consul-General at Hamburgh, according to which the “Tornado” had joined the “Cyclone;” and although it was stated that both ships were only laden with coal, it was publicly reported that they carried a large quantity of iron; and on the Hamburgh Exchange it was said that both vessels had been sold to the Chilean Government.

“ ‘In order properly to estimate the suspicions aroused by the steamer “Tornado,” it must be observed that that vessel sailed from Hamburgh on the 14th July, 1866;

cleared for England, with fifty-four men on board, the greater part of whom were Germans, commanded by Captain Cobby; and that she deviated from her course, and went to Quannesund, in which port she was joined by other vessels laden with arms, munitions of war, and provisions, which were discharged in London, as they were prevented from being transhipped to the "Tornado;" besides, that on board that vessel were Mr. Campbell, and his son, calling themselves her proprietors and fitters-out; that the crew were engaged for three months, at exorbitant wages, to go from Hamburgh to London,—a voyage that only takes six days; and that, as the crew considered themselves to have been deceived, and mutinied in consequence, the Governor of the island, comprehending the illegal object of the expedition and wishing to prevent any act contrary to the neutrality of Denmark, forced the "Tornado" to leave the port, only allowing her to provide herself with the necessary coal.

"The engineers of another ship called the "Imperial" afterwards embarked on board the "Tornado." These men were in the service of Chile; and the foreign newspapers stated that the "Tornado" was about to be armed as a privateer against Spanish commerce, and that the other ships which joined her at Quannesund, were carrying her arms, men, and munitions of war.

"The aforesaid facts have been proved by the depositions of three sailors, taken by the Justice of the Peace at Edinburgh, and by various other means, which appear in the records, and of which a detailed account is given in the Report of the Auditor of the Department, dated 11th December.

"The press of Copenhagen and Scotland confirmed the above information; and the "Nacional" of Lima published the news that the Chilean agents had bought in Great Britain the ships "Pampero" and "Cyclone;" and the same newspaper afterwards called the "Pampero" by her new name "Tornado;" and the "Commercio de Lima" also stated that the said vessels were about to arrive at that port.

"At Leith, the "Tornado" changed her captain and crew, taking on board engineers, stokers, and furnace-servers ("paleros"), engaged for Chile by John MacPherson, who also embarked in the capacity of third mate. By his orders forty seamen were engaged for the service of the Republic, and were divided between the aforesaid vessels.

"The "Tornado" sailed so hurriedly from Leith that she left part of her crew on shore, the captain having to supply the place of the absent men by others at the moment of departure; this is the reason why the roll was added to during the voyage with fictitious dates. All this results from the depositions of the crew themselves, and is corroborated by the bill of health, which does not include all the persons who were on board, and by the fact that each officer did not properly enter upon the discharge of his duties.

"From Leith the "Tornado" went to the Island of Madeira, where she anchored on 21st August, and in which port, where she had gone for the purpose of coaling, and of taking in provisions and men, it was intended that she should remain until the 23rd, according to the depositions of the boatswain and two sailors; but on the 22nd the following signal having been made, "a frigate of war in sight," the captain of the "Tornado" hastily ordered the fires to be lighted, without giving the engineer time to mend the engine; and, going on shore, got his papers ready, and took four of the fifteen persons whom he had engaged, and whom he had told to be ready by the next day.

"The "Tornado" put to sea on the night of the 22nd, without taking in part of the coal which was ordered for her, and went at full speed in a direction opposed to her proper course, keeping very close to the coast. She carried off a Portuguese subject who happened to be on board out of curiosity, and she even left without waiting for the visit of the port authorities, for which she was twice fired at by a battery in the port.

"The frigate "Gerona" which, closely and in a parallel line, was following the ship which by her manœuvres rendered herself so suspicious, came up with her when already out of neutral waters, and, seeing that instead of stopping she hastened her pace, fired three times at her, the last gun being shotted. The Spanish frigate, while standing in-shore on the evening of the 22nd, had learnt from the pilot that the vessel, though English, was suspicious, and that it was reported that she was called the "Tornado," and was going to reinforce the allied squadron in the Pacific, which information was confirmed by the Spanish Consul; and as all this agreed with the instructions given to the Commander of the frigate, and with the aforesaid justly suspicious antecedents, and considering also that the "Tornado," on account of her peculiar build and her destination, could not but be considered as contraband of war, the said Commander, as soon as the "Tornado" hove-to, searched her in due form and manned her, and on the following morning ordered the prize captain to take her to Cadiz.

"Everything was sealed up in the presence of Captain Collier, viz., the papers which

he handed over, the hatchways, the store-rooms, and the cabins, and an inventory was made of everything found in the vessel, which inventory was afterwards ratified by the Commissary of the Naval Department of Cadiz. The seals having been examined and broken, it was found that a plank had been recently taken up in the bottom of one of the berths, and that two trunks belonging to the first mate were quite empty.

“The sealed documents having been opened, and the register of the “Tornado” not having been found among them, that paper was delivered over by Captain Collier, and from the said paper it appeared that the ship belonged to a different owner to the one named in the roll, and also that the certificates of clearance and the bill of health were not in conformity with the roll, for in the roll as many as sixty-six persons are inscribed, while in the certificates and bill of health there are only fifty-five persons set down as being on board, and amongst them the supposed third mate, John MacPherson, is not included. This omission is very remarkable, because it has to do with an employé of the Republic of Chile, who, with that character, intervened in the contracts, agreements, payment of wages in advance, and expenses of the “Tornado’s” voyage.

“In one of the cupboards of the engine-room of that vessel various documents, plans, statements, and letters were found hidden in a handkerchief. Amongst those papers was discovered a permission of leave of absence granted by the President of the Republic of Chile to the Naval Engineer of the First Class, Don Juan MacPherson, and other documents, which, besides the depositions of the person in question, prove that he was in the service of the said Republic.

“It also results from the records of the proceedings that the orders for the engagement of the men, and the funds necessary for the same, were received by McPherson from Don Juan de Dios Merino Benavente, a Chilean agent; besides, there are many other details and circumstances, too lengthy to enumerate, which place it beyond a doubt that the “Tornado” was being prepared for Chile by the recognized Agents of that State.

“Both the Commandant of Engineers of the Arsenal de la Carraca, and Captain Collier, in one of his depositions, have shown, after the examination of the vessel by the first-named functionary, that the “Tornado” is not a merchant-ship, and that, by her peculiar build and interior system of division, she is prepared for the reception of the armament and crew of a man-of-war. The statement of the foregoing facts demonstrates the four points which are established by the Junta of the Department in its sentence of 4th June last (folio 88 of the records), and from which is deduced the legality of the capture.

“Those four points are:—

“1. That the “Tornado” is not proved to be neutral property, and that her papers are irregular and contradictory;

“2. That there exists against the vessel the legal presumption that she carried two sets of papers, founded on the fact that the second berth on the port side of the second lower cabin was broken into after being sealed up;

“3. That the said steamer “Tornado” had on board of her a fictitious third mate in the person of a superior officer of Chilean Naval Engineers, who had to do with her fitting-out, and engaged for the war service of the Republic the officers, accountants, engineers, blacksmiths, stokers, furnace-servers and seamen who manned the “Tornado” and her consort the steamer “Cyclone,” to whom he gave advances of wages, journey-money, uniforms, and money for other expenses, out of funds given him by the Agent of the Republic of Chile, Don Juan de Dios Merino Benavente, resident in London;

“And 4. That the “Tornado” was built for war purposes, having none of the requisites for a merchant-vessel; that her being sent to Rio Janeiro to be sold in that port was supposititious, for her captain was authorized by his instructions to go straight from Fernando de Noronha to the Pacific, touching at the Falkland Islands, which instructions were common to both vessels, and expressly refer also to the steamer “Cyclone,” which held the course expressed in the same, and arrived at a port of the Republic to form part of the Chilean navy.

“Besides, if we consider that Article 22 of the Ordenanza do Corso of 1801, Article 16 of the Regulations of 26th November, 1864, concerning the blockading of ports, and Rule 7 of the Instructions for the carrying out of the same, authorized (especially the first-named of these) the detention even of vessels belonging to allied or neutral Powers which may excite suspicion on account of their course, papers, resistance, flight, description of cargo, and other legitimate reasons, founded on Treaties and the general custom of nations, the reason for which the steamer “Tornado” was visited, examined, and detained by the frigate “Gerona,” will be found to be sufficiently justified, whether regard be had to the previous information obtained concerning her preparation by Chilean agents, or to the fact that, in this case, all the circumstances exist which are set forth in the said Article 22 of

the Ordenanza do Corso; and her definitive capture and declaration as a good prize are not less justified by the tenor of the dispositions of the Maritime Laws and the principles of International Law.

“ ‘In fact, Article 24 of the said Ordenanza orders that any vessel having on board hostile officers, or a supercargo or administrator belonging to an enemy, or having more than a third part* composed of persons belonging to a hostile State, shall be detained, so that, in the port to which she may be taken, an investigation may be made of the reasons which compelled the employment of such persons, and to the end that, according to those reasons and to the orders given, a determination may be come to as to the course to be adopted.

“ ‘Article 32 of the said Ordenanza and Article 15 of the above-mentioned Regulations of 1864 also order that any vessel, which cannot be proved to be neutral, shall be declared to be a good prize; and the “Tornado’s” documents are so contradictory that the real owner of the ship cannot be discovered therefrom. From the register it appears that James Galbraith and Peter Deny are the owners; from the roll, Saul Isaac, in the capacity of managing proprietor; and from the depositions of Captain Collier and some of the crew, Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.; and, in view of such contradiction, the inevitable conclusion is that the neutrality is not proved in a proper legal manner.

“ ‘Article 23 of the aforesaid Ordenanza orders that if the captors or other persons belonging to vessels detained, should throw papers into the sea, that cause alone will suffice for the declaration of such vessels as good prizes. Although such an act is not perfectly proved, yet there is sufficient cause for arguing that it was committed, for, after the sealing of the several compartments of the “Tornado,” one of the berths was broken into, and a plank raised in the bottom of the same, and two trunks belonging to the first mate were found quite empty.

“ ‘Above all, for the formation of a conviction that the captured vessel belonged to a hostile State, it suffices that, added to the other data in the records, there be, as in this case there is, a well-founded suspicion that other papers, differing from those handed over, may have been made away with or thrown into the sea.

“ ‘It is proved in the records that the “Tornado” had on board a superior naval officer of the Republic, and that more than a third part of her crew belonged to a hostile nation; and those facts are also sufficient for her declaration as a good prize, according to the aforesaid Article 24 of the Ordenanza, and to the tenor of the Regulations of 1864.

“ ‘No legitimate explanation of these facts has been offered, and, consequently, the declaration of the ship as a good prize is in conformity with the aforesaid dispositions.

“ ‘Lastly, the declaration is also justified by the consideration that the “Tornado” was not built like a merchantman, and that she was prepared for the reception of war armament and crew; and as she was bound to hostile ports, and Articles 34 and 40 of the aforesaid Ordenanza and Regulations declare everything constituting contraband of war to be liable to confiscation,—and contraband of war consists of instruments and effects for making war by sea and land,—that is another argument, and one of the most important, in favour of the capture of the said vessel.

“ ‘Therefore, the Council, agreeing with the Report issued by the Auditor of the Department of Cadiz, and accepting, as a basis of the present opinion, all the considerations set forth by that functionary and by the Prize Junta in their sentence, proposes to your Excellency that the said sentence should be confirmed, and that, consequently, the detention of the “Tornado” should be declared legal, and that vessel and all belonging to her a good prize, and that the value thereof, less the expenses, should be divided amongst the captors according to Regulation.

“ ‘And the Queen (whom God preserve) having been informed of the matter, has deigned, in conformity with the foregoing opinion and with that of the Council of Ministers, to confirm the decision given by the Prize Court of the Department of Cadiz on the 4th of June last, declaring the detention of the “Tornado” legal, and that vessel and all belonging to her a good prize, and deciding that the value thereof, less costs, should be divided among the captors according to regulation. It is also the will of Her Majesty that this sovereign Resolution be made known to the parties, and that the Prize Court should proceed to take the proper steps for the fulfilment thereof.’ ”

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

MARTIN BELDA.

* *Sic in orig.* Qy., of her crew (caret).

No. 50.

*Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 17.)**7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,
September 16, 1868.*

My Lord,

THE case of the "Tornado," has now assumed so urgent an aspect that we trust your Lordship will forgive us for pressing for an interview at your Lordship's early convenience.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL, AND Co.

No. 51.

Mr. Egerton to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 18, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, requesting an interview; and I am to state to you, in reply, that his Lordship will be happy to see you when Her Majesty's Government have been able to consider the information recently received from Madrid upon the subject of the "Tornado," but he cannot at present name a time for receiving you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 52.

*Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 29.)**7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,
October 28, 1868.*

My Lord,

ON the 19th of September last we had the honour to receive from Mr. Egerton, by your Lordship's direction, a letter, without date, stating that information had been received from Madrid, and when Her Majesty's Government had been able to consider the same, your Lordship would favour us with an appointment on the subject of the "Tornado."

We have the honour respectfully to ask your Lordship when it will be convenient to receive us, as we are now anxious to avoid further delay in the settlement of this matter.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL, AND Co.

No. 53.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, requesting an interview with his Lordship on the subject of the "Tornado;" and I am to inform you, in reply, that the Law Officers of the Crown have not as yet reported on the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 54.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 31, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of August last, respecting the case of the "Tornado," I have now the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I have

received from Señor Retortillo, the Counsel for the claimants, in answer to the inquiries which I made of him with a view to elucidate more fully the points referred to in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of August last, respecting the legal proceedings in this case, and the rights of defence and appeal which, under the Spanish law, may appertain to the claimants; as well as the manner in which they may have availed themselves of those rights, or in how far they may have been prevented, or may have abstained, from so doing.

The absence of Señor Retortillo from Madrid, and the late circumstances of the country, were the causes which prevented my obtaining this information at an earlier period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 54.

Señor Retortillo to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Madrid, October 19, 1868.

ACCORDING to the promise which I made you at our last interview, I have the honour to return an answer to the consultations which you have held with me concerning some incidents relating to the suit against the "Tornado."

The owners of the vessel, in the person of their legal representative, presented themselves before the Prize Court at Cadiz, when, in August 1867, they were summoned to make their defence. With that intention they examined the suit; but, having discovered some serious defects in the form thereof, which affected its legality, they demanded that they should be remedied. The chief fault was, that the Court proposed to judge and deliver a sentence based upon proofs which, as Lord Stanley had declared in one of his despatches to you, had been collected behind the back of the accused, and which, in Lord Stanley's opinion, could not be allowed, nor serve as a basis for a judgment which would offer sufficient guarantees. In fact, all the proceedings taken by the Cadiz Prize Court before the pronouncing of the sentence of 16th December, 1866, were preserved in the suit as the basis of the decision thereof; this was not only contrary to that which was sustained by Lord Stanley, but also opposed to the sentence of the Supreme Court of War and Marine, of 23rd May, 1867, which declared the matter to be not judicial (which character and form had been given to it), but administrative, and which revoked the sentence passed by the Cadiz Court on 16th December, 1866.

On these reasons, and on the want of a guarantee for the impartiality of the Court which was to judge the "Tornado" anew (for it was composed of the same persons who had formed the Tribunal which passed the sentence of 16th December), the owners based their solicitation for the reforming of the suit by giving it the administrative character in all its parts, both because that was the legal course declared by the Supreme Court of War and Marine, and because it had been demanded by Lord Stanley, from whose ideas the owners could not depart, under pain of losing the protection of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which would, on the other hand, be extended to them, if it were seen that they scrupulously followed those ideas, and faithfully observed and upheld the principles and pretensions of the Foreign Office. The owners promised to enter upon their defence as as soon as the defects of the proceedings were remedied.

The Cadiz Prize Court, no doubt comprehending the importance of the question raised by the owners of the "Tornado," instead of deciding it, referred to the Minister of Marine; and that Department, after having heard the opinion of the Council of State, ordered that the same proofs which had served as the basis of the sentence of 16th December, should be taken into consideration by the Court when declaring the innocence or guilt of the "Tornado."

The proprietors of the "Tornado" understanding that it would be even absurd to think that the same Court, with the same proofs, would pronounce a sentence different from that which it had already issued on 16th December, believed their defence to be useless; and as they relied upon the certainty of being able to defend themselves before the Council of State, they desisted from a step which, in view of the above-mentioned antecedents, they had sufficient reason to believe would be useless, and which would only cause expense over and above the large sums which they had already been obliged to disburse.

In fact, a short time afterwards, as it was reasonably to be supposed, the same Court, with the same proofs, reproduced its sentence, the same as that of 16th December,

founding it on the same basis of the first suit, which basis had been repudiated by Lord Stanley in a despatch addressed to you in the beginning of 1867.

By Spanish law, the declaration of a good or bad prize rests with the Government; but that faculty entails on the Government the obligation of hearing the opinion of the full Council of State, this is why the Prize Court sent the suit against the "Tornado" to the Ministry of Marine, which Department sent it to the Council of State so as to hear the opinion of the latter.

Up to the present day the Council of State has had jurisdiction in two kinds of matters, and in each kind the form of jurisdiction has been different. In matters called contentions, that is to say, in claims against the Government, preferred by private individuals injured in their rights in consequence of administrative resolutions, the interested parties could make their defence by Counsel precisely within the terms laid down by the regulations, and the Council itself admitted the defences directly. In administrative ("gubernativo"), matters that is to say, those in which the Government sought an opinion, the interested parties did not stand in need of Counsel, and (this is the most important part in the present case) the Council could not directly receive the writings of the interested parties. The latter were obliged to present the documents for the defence to the Government, which, without infringing the law, could transmit them or not to the Council for their cognizance. No time is fixed by the law for their defence.

To which of the two classes did the case of the "Tornado" belong? The Government had said to the administrative ("gubernativo") class; but as, on the other hand, in Señor Bermudez de Castro's note to you of the 11th December, 1865, and in another of General Calonge's, appeal to the Council of State and defence by Counsel was offered to the proprietors of captured vessels, which sorts of defence are only applicable to contentious matters, the owners of the "Tornado" had no fixed rule by which to regulate their defence in the face of this contradiction; but always anxious to defend themselves, without loss of time they had recourse to the Government, requesting them to solve the doubts which had arisen concerning the manner of making the defence. Are we to present it directly to the Council of State they said? That High Body might answer us that the matter is administrative ("gubernativo"), and that it cannot admit it except through the Government. Are we to present it to the Government? They could answer us that the Council of State having been declared to be a Tribunal of Appeal, in accordance with the notes of the above-mentioned Ministers, that Body ought to admit the defence. Within what time ought we to present the defence? Are we allowed oral defence, if we should think fit to use it? Before whom, seeing that the Council of State does not allow it in administrative matters? All these doubts the owners presented to the Minister, and respectfully asked that they should be solved; it is easily explained how they may have these doubts, since it is known that the "Tornado" has been the first prize case considered as administrative in Spain.

On the 3rd of July, the owners of the "Tornado" made the above-mentioned request; and on the 1st of the same month the case had passed to the Council of State in order that it should give its opinion; and the owners of the "Tornado," instead of receiving an answer to their request (which was an indispensable requisite for the presentation of the defence), got news, unofficially, that the Council of State, at a sitting on the 11th of July, had informed the Government that it could confirm the sentence of the Prize Court at Cadiz, and could declare the "Tornado" a good prize.

Even after the Council had given its opinion (as the opinion of this body is not obligatory on the Government according to law), it could and ought to have allowed the owners the defence of their rights and interests. On this account you will remember that the representative of the owners addressed a communication to you inclosing a copy of the petition which he had presented to the Spanish Government, and which concluded with a protest in case the defence should not be allowed, asking you at the same time to interfere as Representative of Her Britannic Majesty's Government in order to avoid the establishment of a precedent which would be prejudicial to the subjects of Great Britain. I do not know whether this step on the part of the owners gave rise to any diplomatic action; all I know is, that a few days afterwards the Spanish Government, without having communicated any resolution to the representative of the owners respecting the petition for the allowing of the defence, the Government, I repeat confirmed the sentence of the Cadiz Tribunal, declaring the "Tornado" a good prize.

In the above account, you will find the answer to the two consultations which you were pleased to hold with me, and which it was not possible to answer quite clearly without establishing and settling what has already occurred.

In short, then, I will state to you:—

1. That the owners of the "Tornado" had the right to present defences before the

Tribunal of Cadiz, and before the Council of State (directly or indirectly, by means of the Ministry of Marine) or only before the Tribunal, or only before the Council, without the fact of their not having done so before the first prejudicing them in defending themselves before the second, in accordance with the principles of right and with the laws.

2. That they did not present their defence before the Tribunal of Cadiz for the reasons I have already set forth.

3. That being certain of condemnation by the Tribunal of Cadiz, looking to the reasons already set forth, they always trusted that, in their defence before the Council of State (in accordance with the notes of the Spanish Government) they would be able to make use of Counsel, and present proofs of their innocence to the Tribunal of Appeal, about the impartiality of which they had not the same reasonable suspicions as they had about that of the Cadiz Tribunal.

4. That the laws of Spain allow interested parties the defence of their rights in contentions and in administrative matters, when the records of the proceedings pass to the Council of State, with the difference that when these matters belong to the first class, the Government cannot stop the defence, and when they belong to the second, it can, on its own responsibility, not transmit to the Council the defence presented by the interested parties.

5. That in the case of the "Tornado" the Government could not fail to transmit the defence of the owners to the Council, because it was deprived of entire freedom of action by the obligations which it had contracted with the British Government in the fulfilment of which the owners had always relied; and the more so, because it is the constant habit of the Spanish Government by way of guarantee to parties interested in administrative matters to transmit to the Council the defences of the said parties, when that High Body is already in possession of the records of proceedings to which the said defences refer.

I trust that my reply to your consultation may prove to you with the greatest clearness all you wish to know respecting the points it embraces. In thus giving my opinion, I have not taken into account that I was the legal adviser of the owners of the ship: I have only considered my character as a lawyer, which obliges me to state fairly that which I think to be in accordance with law,

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE LUIS RETORTILLO.

No. 55.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 9.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 6, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, on the subject of the "Tornado," I have now the honour to transmit the copy of a despatch which I have received from Consul Dunlop, inclosing the translation of a protest which Mr. William Macpherson has forwarded to the Prize Court of Cadiz.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Consul Dunlop to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Cadiz, November 2, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to state to you that, in the absence from this country of Don Daniel Macpherson, who acted for the owners of the "Tornado," his relative, Mr. W. McPherson, has sent me the inclosed letter (copy), with translation of a protest which has been forwarded to the Prize Court of Cadiz. He requests that this protest be laid before Lord Stanley.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Mr. W. Mc Pherson to Consul Dunlop.

Sir,

Cadiz, October 29, 1868.

HEREWITH, translation of a protest, I have handed to the Prize Court of San Fernando regarding the case of the "Tornado," and which I will be obliged by your forwarding to Lord Stanley.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

WM. Mc PHERSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 55.

Protest.

(Translation.)

To the President of the Prize Court of this Department.

WILLIAM Mc PHERSON, in the name of the owners of the English steamers "Tornado" captured by the frigate "Gerona," is again obliged to apply to the Court, or to whoever may have cognizance of the case of the capture of this vessel. Sir, the owners of the "Tornado" have repeatedly protested during the course of the case, which has ended in a condemnatory sentence or resolution. All these protests have been ineffectual and useless, including the last one presented to his Excellency the Minister of Marine, requesting that the owners might be heard in their defence, before being sentenced definitively according to law, and to the solemn promise of the Spanish Government to that of Her Britannic Majesty. The vessel has been condemned. The owners, British subjects, tired of seeing their legal demands unattended, have demanded protection from their Government, and possibly the events lately occurred in the Peninsula may have been the cause of no demand having been presented, or that no diplomatic solution may have taken place.

However, as it is publicly stated the "Tornado" is to be sold shortly, and as this act might cause great damage to her owners, though their right to be indemnified might hereafter be acknowledged. The Undersigned begs that the Court may be pleased to order the suspension of the sale of the "Tornado," and if not, he thoroughly protests against said act and against all its consequences, thus protecting the rights of her owners.

Cadiz, October 10, 1868.

No. 56.

Mr. Sutherland to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

38, Bernard Street, Leith, December 3, 1868.

UNDERSTANDING that certain arrangements have been come to between the British and Spanish Governments relative to the claims for compensation against the latter at the instance of the crew of the steam-ship "Tornado," I have been requested to bring under your Lordship's notice the undernoted claims against the Spanish Government at the instance of certain British subjects who were members of the crew of said vessel, viz:—

1. William Mc Kay, chief cook on board said vessel. He was cut down on the night of the capture by one of the crew of the Spanish frigate in August 1866; was very cruelly treated during his detention for seven months, and was ultimately discharged from custody with the loss of all his wearing apparel and other personal effects. He claims 500*l.* for compensation for his illegal capture and detention, and his sufferings and loss of effects.

2. Thomas Mc Dermott, fireman. Besides being illegally detained for seven months, this party was subjected to much cruel treatment on board the Spanish war-frigate, and in consequence of the want of proper clothing and protection, and of insufficient fare during his incarceration, his health has greatly suffered, and he has since been subject to severe attacks of rheumatism; he also was deprived of his clothes and personal effects, and he claims 350*l.* for compensation.

3. Thomas Conolly, fireman, suffered illegal imprisonment for the same period as the above, and was subjected to the like cruel treatment, besides having been, without any

cause whatever, put in irons for seven weeks on board the war-frigate. He lost his whole effects, and claims 350%. And,

4. John Woods, coal trimmer. Was in irons for seven weeks without cause on board the Spanish frigate, and detained for seven months along with the above-named, and subject to the like ill-treatment as the above. He also lost his whole clothes and other effects, and claims 300%.

I shall be glad to know when and how the above claims are likely to be settled, and whether the funds have been obtained from the Spanish Government for settlement of them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PATRICK S. BEVERIDGE,
For Jas. B. Sutherland.

No. 57.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Sutherland.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, on the subject of the claims for compensation of certain of the crew of the steam-ship "Tornado;" and I am to inform you that no such arrangements as those to which you allude have been come to between Her Majesty's Government and that of Spain.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 58.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 17, 1868.

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration, and have submitted to the Law Advisers of the Crown, the Report of the Spanish Minister of Marine to the Minister of State, a copy of which was inclosed in your despatch of September 6, which announces the definitive confirmation of the sentence pronounced by the Prize Court of Cadiz in the case of the steam-ship "Tornado."

It appears from that despatch that you instituted inquiries with a view to elucidate more fully the points referred to in Lord Stanley's despatch to you of the 20th of August respecting the legal proceedings in this case,—the rights of defence and appeal which may, under Spanish law, appertain to the defendants, as well as the manner in which they may have availed themselves of those rights, or in how far they may have been prevented or have abstained from so doing; but the recent events in Spain appear to have prevented you from ascertaining from the Spanish Government how it happens that the promise made by them that the claimants should have a full opportunity of appealing against the sentence of the Court at Cadiz was unfulfilled, notwithstanding the application of the claimants to be allowed a hearing before the Council of State. Señor Retortillo, however, in his letter to you of the 19th of October, a copy of which was inclosed in your despatch of the 31st of that month, states the actual course of events and proceedings in this case; and from this statement it appears that the claimants desisted entirely from taking any step, or offering any evidence before the Cadiz Prize Court, relying, it is said, upon the certainty of being able to defend themselves before the Council of State. In effect, therefore, the Cadiz Prize Court, after giving the claimants the fullest opportunity of appealing, and being heard against the sentence of condemnation, considered the case upon the materials before the Court, and, for the reasons stated in the Decree, pronounced for the condemnation.

The use of these materials as a foundation for such a sentence is objected to by the claimants, but Her Majesty's Government cannot say that a sentence founded upon them (after full opportunity given to the claimants to supply fresh evidence, and object to and maintain the worthlessness of that used) made the decision one contrary to justice; and, in fact, it does not appear that any promise or representation was ever made by the Spanish Government that on the appeal which it was stated the claimants were entitled to, any other evidence could be used than that produced and relied upon in the first Prize Court.

Señor Retortillo, it seems, considers that from the peculiar "administrative" character of the proceedings, defence, as of right, before the Council of State was not allowed; but that having regard to the obligations which the Spanish Government had contracted with the British Government, on the fulfilment of which the owners had always relied, "the Spanish Government ought to have transmitted the defence of the owners to the Council."

No reply, however, was given to the claimants' petition to be heard, and the sentence of the Cadiz Court was affirmed without any such hearing.

Such appears to be the state of the question, and I have thought proper to furnish you with the foregoing observations for your own information, and in order that the views of Her Majesty's Government on this case may stand on record.

As regards the evidence which the claimants intended to produce to prove the innocence of the vessel, Her Majesty's Government are, of course, ignorant; but relying on the statement of the claimants that they anticipated that they should be allowed the opportunity of defence before a Tribunal of Appeal, I have to instruct you to represent to the Spanish Government the circumstances under which the claimants postponed and declined to enter into their defence, and you will request that under these circumstances a Special Tribunal, after hearing both sides, may determine whether the "Tornado" was or was not good prize.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 59.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 17, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 6th ultimo, and to my despatch of this day's date directing you to request the Spanish Government to allow the claimants in the "Tornado" case an opportunity of being heard in their defence, I have further to instruct you to ask that, in the meantime, the vessel shall not be sold in pursuance of the existing sentence of condemnation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 60.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 8, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo, I have addressed to the Spanish Government requesting that the "Tornado" may not be sold in pursuance of the existing sentence without the claimants being allowed an opportunity of being heard in their defence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 60.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Lorenzana.

M. le Ministre,

Madrid, January 7, 1869.

WITH reference to the communications which I had the honour of making to your Excellency by my note of this day's date, requesting on the part of Her Majesty's Government that the claimants in the case of the "Tornado" shall be afforded an opportunity of being heard in their defence, I am further instructed by Her Majesty's Government to ask that in the meantime this vessel shall not be sold in pursuance of the sentence of condemnation.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 8, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo, I have addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting that, considering the circumstances under which the claimants in the case of the "Tornado" postponed and declined to enter upon their defence before the Prize Court of Cadiz, and were not admitted to defend their cause before the Council of State, which, in virtue of the declarations of the Spanish Government to Her Majesty's Government, they were entitled to regard as the proper Court of Appeal for all prize cases in Spain, a special Tribunal after hearing both sides may determine whether the "Tornado" was or was not a good prize.

Before making this application, I requested Señor Retortillo, the legal Counsel of the claimants, to inform me of the precise circumstances of this part of the case, in order that I might be able to represent them with legal correctness to the Spanish Government.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of the statement which he drew up for this purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Lorenzana.

M. le Ministre,

Madrid, January 7, 1869.

I DID not fail to transmit to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the note dated the 25th of August last, addressed to me by your Excellency's predecessor in office, the Marquis de Roncali, furnishing me with a copy of the Royal Order of the 3rd of July last, by which, after the opinion of the Council of State had been heard, the sentence of the Prize Court of Cadiz, of the 4th of June last, was confirmed, declaring the capture of the "Tornado" to have been legitimate, and the vessel to be a good prize.

Her Majesty's Government, after having submitted this decision to the fullest consideration, now direct me to state to your Excellency, that although it appears from it that the Prize Court, before pronouncing its sentence, gave the owners of the "Tornado" an opportunity of being heard in their defence, it has nevertheless been represented to Her Majesty's Government by these claimants, that for reasons which were considered by their Counsel to be valid in law, they declined to enter upon their defence before the Prize Court, and elected to avail themselves of the right to which they conceived that they were entitled of defending their cause before the Council of State, as being the proper Court of Appeal in prize cases. They state, that in relying upon this right they considered themselves to be fully justified by referring to the solemn declarations of the Spanish Government to Her Majesty's Government, that the Council of State was the Court of Appeal before which all prize cases must be heard before a definitive sentence of condemnation could be pronounced.

These declarations they point out to have been distinctly made in the official notes addressed to myself as Representative of Her Majesty's Government, by Don Manuel Bermudez de Castro, and by General Colonge, when Ministers of State, dated respectively the 11th of December, 1865, and the 21st of November, 1866.

The claimants further aver, that having, on the 3rd of July last, addressed a petition to the Minister of Marine, praying to be directed in what manner they were to proceed in the exercise of this right, received no reply to their application; and that while they were in expectation of a reply, it came to their knowledge extra-officially, that the Council of State had, on the 11th of July, made known to the Government that they could confirm the sentence of the Prize Court at Cadiz, and declare the "Tornado" to be a good prize.

Under these circumstances it appears to Her Majesty's Government, that the claimants in the case of the "Tornado" have been placed in the position of having had their cause decided against them, without being admitted to make their defence before the Tribunal to which they were entitled to appeal, according to the engagements of the Spanish Government towards Her Majesty's Government above referred to; which engagements consequently have not been fulfilled in this case.

I am now, therefore, instructed by Her Majesty's Government to request that the Spanish Government may cause this matter to be brought before a special Tribunal, which, after hearing both sides, may determine whether the "Tornado" is a good prize or not.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

Statement of the "Tornado" Case by Señor Retortillo.

(Translation.)

SETTING aside, for the moment, the reasons which the owners of the "Tornado" declared that they had for not making their defence before the Cadiz Prize Court, after the suit had been allowed to preserve the proofs substantiated behind their backs and without their knowledge, which reasons may be more or less justified in the sight of Her Britannic Majesty's Government; it is impossible to ignore the fact that the Spanish Government has not granted to the owners of the captured vessels those means of defence which the Ministers, Señor Bermudez de Castro and General Calonge, had solemnly promised should be granted to them, and which, even if that formal promise had not been made, would be theirs by right, according to Spanish law and to the general principles of jurisprudence.

The Spanish Government in its notes had declared the Council of State to be the Court of Appeal in prize cases; and, by a resolution issued by the Ministry of Marine, notice of which was given to the owners of the "Tornado," the Government afterwards declared that, for the definitive declaration of good prize in the case of all sea captures, the full Council of State must necessarily be heard.

That High Body having to take cognizance of prize cases, it could not have been the intention of the Spanish Government to deprive the owners of captured vessels of the right of laying their defence or observations before the said Body. Such an intention would have been opposed to the law and practice of Spain, and above all, it would have been entirely contrary to the principles of international law, and to that good faith by which all Governments must be supposed to be animated so as to afford to foreigners full means of causing the truth to come to the knowledge of the Court or Body having cognizance of matters in which they may be interested.

As soon as the Cadiz Court declared the "Tornado" to be a good prize, her owners sent a memorial to the Minister of Marine begging him to decide certain previous questions unprecedented in Spain, so that they might at once present their written defence in due form; but the Minister of Marine did not reply to the memorial, and while the interested parties were anxiously awaiting an answer, the Spanish Government passed the case to the Council of State, which issued its report with extraordinary quickness. The owners of the ship were ignorant of all this. A few days afterwards the Spanish Government definitively declared the "Tornado" to be a good prize, and the Marquis de Roncali addressed a despatch to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, dated 25th August last, communicating that decision.

In due time the owners of the "Tornado" took official steps in order that the Council of State might have examined their defence before issuing a report, but the Spanish Government took no notice of those steps, thus causing the defendants to be left without making their defence; and this is contrary to what is prescribed by law, and to the engagements entered into by Spain, for they ignored the administrative practice of Spain, and, above all, they infringed the principles and practices of international law, which are based on the reciprocal good faith of nations.

The owners of the captured vessel, who are subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, have had recourse to their Government, setting forth these facts and making the necessary reclamations, which the Government of Great Britain have carefully examined.

No. 62.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1869.

I HAVE to state to you that I approve the note, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 8th instant, which you have addressed to the Spanish Government

requesting that a Special Tribunal, after hearing both sides, may determine whether the "Tornado" is or is not a good prize.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 63.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 11.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 7, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 8th ultimo, and to previous correspondence relative to the case of the "Tornado," I have the honour to inclose translation of a letter and its inclosure which I have received from Don Eusebio Casaes y Castro, procurator and representative of the claimants of that vessel, forwarding to me for communication to Her Majesty's Government a copy of a protest which he has addressed to the Spanish Minister of Marine against the sale of the "Tornado."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 63.

Señor Casaes y Castro to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency, for your information, copy of a petition which, in the name of the owners of the steamer "Tornado," I have addressed to his Excellency the Minister of Marine, praying for the suspension of the sale of the said ship, for the reasons which I bring forward; and I further present the most solemn protest in case my request should be refused.

I beg your Excellency to be good enough to inform Her Britannic Majesty's Government of this.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) E. CASAES Y CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 63.

Petition.

(Translation.)

To his Excellency the Minister of Marine,

DON EUSEBIO CASAES Y CASTRO, the representative of the owners of the steamer "Tornado," has recourse to your Excellency in consequence of the Decree issued by the Junta of the Department of Cadiz, and dated 15th instant, which Decree has been notified to the representative of the owner in that city.

Some months back, the latter representative requested the authorities of the Department to suspend the sale of the vessel; for, although she had been declared a good prize, he thought, and still thinks, that that declaration would have to be annulled, as it was made without the fulfilment of all legal formalities by the Spanish Government; and as the owners of the prize had made reclamations to their Government (that of Great Britain) on the subject, the representative thought that the suspension of the sale might prevent him from being one day obliged to claim heavier damages; and, therefore, so as to avoid anything that might be prejudicial to him, he protested, in case the authorities of the Department should not grant his request.

But the Junta of the Department, by the aforesaid Decree, has not only refused his just solicitation, but has also declined to admit the protest; and as the Junta founds its decision on the fact that, being an inferior authority, it cannot abrogate the orders of its superiors, the Undersigned is forced to apply to your Excellency, with the same object with which he applied to the Junta, viz., to the end that you may suspend the sale of the "Tornado" while the diplomatic negotiations as to the legality of the suit are in progress, and, in case of a negative, that you may accept the solemn protest which he who addresses you makes in the name of the owners of the vessel. The Undersigned has informed the

Government of Great Britain of this request and protest, that such steps may be taken as may be thought fit.

The Undersigned is confident that your Excellency, as a member of the Provisional Government of the nation, being doubtless informed of the present state of this case diplomatically speaking, and with judgment and powers superior to those of the Junta, will acknowledge the justice of his request ; and

He begs your Excellency to order the suspension of the improper sale of the "Tornado," and, in the contrary event, to accept the solemn protest which he makes in the name of the owners of the ship.

He hopes this of your Excellency, whose life may God preserve, &c.

Madrid, January 26, 1869.

(Signed) E. CASAES Y CASTRO.

No. 64.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 12, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th instant, inclosing a copy of a protest against the sale of the "Tornado" which has been addressed to the Spanish Minister of Marine by Don Casaes y Castro, the representative of the claimants in the case of that vessel.

I have now to instruct you to see Señor Lorenzana, and you will speak to him seriously in the name of Her Majesty's Government on this long-protracted case, which will doubtless become matter of discussion in Parliament.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 65.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 26, 1869.

HAVING, according to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant, pressed upon the Spanish Government the necessity of bringing the long-pending case of the "Tornado" to a conclusion and requested a reply to my note of the 7th ultimo on this subject, I have now the honour to inclose the translation of a note which I have received from Señor Lorenzana, by which his Excellency states to me that he will not fail to comply with my request so soon as the Minister of the Marine, to whom the matter has been referred, furnishes him with a decision of the question raised by Her Majesty's Government in regard to this case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Señor Lorenzana to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, February 18, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have made the Minister of Marine acquainted with the contents of your notes of the 7th of January last, respecting the capture of the "Tornado;" and as soon as I receive my colleague's answer I shall not delay in transmitting it to you. Availing, &c.

(Signed) JUAN A. DE LORENZANA.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Seizure of the
"Tornado," off Madeira, by the Spanish frigate
"Gerona."

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament,
March 10, 1868.)

*Presented to the House of Lords by Command of
Her Majesty. 1869.*

[Price 6½d.]

“TORNADO.” No. 2 (1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

SEIZURE OF THE “TORNADO,”

OFF

MADEIRA,

BY THE

SPANISH FRIGATE “GERONA.”

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament
April 12, 1869.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
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Correspondence respecting the Seizure of the "Tornado," off
Madeira, by the Spanish Frigate "Gerona."

No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1869.

AS I have reason to believe that the claims of the crew of the "Tornado" will shortly be brought before the House of Lords, it would be very satisfactory if you could enable me to state that a favourable disposition existed on the part of the Spanish Government with regard to compensating the crew and the widow of John McPherson.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 2.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 3, 1869.

HAVING, in compliance with your Lordship's desire, applied to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs in order to ascertain the disposition of the Spanish Government in regard to granting an indemnity to the crew of the "Tornado" and the widow of Mr. McPherson, his Excellency furnished me with the Memorandum, of which I have the honour to inclose herewith copy and translation.

Your Lordship will observe that the Spanish Government declines to admit that any indemnity is due to the crew or to Mr. McPherson on account of their detention or on account of their alleged ill-treatment by the Spanish authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Memorandum.

(Translation.)

INASMUCH as it is a generally admitted principle that once a vessel declared to be good prize, neither the crew nor the owners can lay claim to any kind of indemnity, and inasmuch as the capture of the "Tornado" can be qualified as such, the detention of the crew was not, as erroneously supposed in one of the communications of the British Government, owing to the necessity of taking their evidence, but to the fact of some of the men being actually engaged in the military service of Chile, while all were acting in open hostility to Spain. They were consequently prisoners of war, and all claim to indemnity becomes invalid.

Out of consideration for England, most of the crew being British subjects, the Spanish Government set the men at liberty.

With regard to Mr. John McPherson, the results of the trial, and, indeed, his own evidence, shows that he was a first class engineer in the Chilean navy, and as such charged with the supervision of the vessels "General O'Higgins" and "Chacabuco," which were being built in England, and that he embarked on board the "Tornado" as third mate.

There can be no doubt that McPherson, according to international law, was rightly considered in the light of a prisoner of war, and his detention, therefore, can give him no

claim to indemnity, more especially as the Spanish Government, notwithstanding the fact of Mc Pherson being an enemy whose services might prove seriously prejudicial to the country and the Government, allowed him, out of deference to Her Majesty's Minister, to leave Seville, where he had been detained on parole; Mc Pherson, as well as his comrades, receiving the maintenance corresponding to their rank.

It should be observed that with respect to the treatment which the prisoners received subsequently to the capture of the "Tornado," their own evidence, which exists in the Foreign Office, as well as the evidence of Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, proves that on board the "Tornado" they were treated in the same manner as the Spanish crew, and that on shore they experienced every kind of consideration.

No. 3.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co. to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

*7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,
April 7, 1869.*

My Lord,

WE have the honour to call your Lordship's attention to the case of our screw-steamer "Tornado," and to respectfully solicit your Lordship's favourable consideration of the hardship entailed by the delay in this matter.

On the 31st October last, we received a communication from Mr. Hammond, by the direction of Lord Stanley, in which he states that the then "Law Officers of the Crown have not as yet reported in the case." Since which period we have not received any information from Her Majesty's Government. We shall now, therefore, be greatly favoured by receiving a communication from your Lordship, being most anxious to know the present position of our claim, and we are sure that after the delay which has already been permitted, your Lordship will readily accord us your prompt and favourable consideration.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL, AND Co.

No. 4.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, April 13, 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you herewith a copy of the correspondence relative to the "Tornado" which has just been presented to Parliament, from which you will learn the present position of the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 5.

Sir J. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, May 9, 1869.

I HAVE to-day received reply to my note of the 7th January in the case of the "Tornado." The Spanish Government declines to try the case anew before a special tribunal, and maintains the former decision as definitive. Señor Lorenzana's note is accompanied by a fresh Report of the Council of State dated March 31. Copy of note and fresh Report of Council of State will be forwarded by post to-morrow.

Correspondence respecting the Seizure of the
"Tornado," off Madeira, by the Spanish Frigate
"Gerona."

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament
April 12, 1869.)

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty.* 1869.

[*Price 1d.*]

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

SHAH OF PERSIA,

FOR EXTENDING AND SECURING

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION BETWEEN
EUROPE AND INDIA.

Signed, in the English and Persian Languages, at Tehran, April 2, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the Shah of Persia,
for extending and securing Telegraphic Communication
between Europe and India.

Signed, in the English and Persian Languages, at Tehran, April 2, 1868.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Tehran, August 25, 1868.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of all the Kingdoms of Persia, being desirous to extend and secure the means of telegraphic communication between Europe and India, have resolved to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries (that is to say) :—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Charles Alison, Esquire, Companion of Her Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia;

And His Majesty the King of all the Kingdoms of Persia, his Excellency Meerza Saeed Khan, his Minister for Foreign Affairs, possessor of the Order of the Royal Portrait adorned with diamonds, and of the blue cordon, and bearer of the pearled tassel and rod adorned with diamonds, possessor of the Order of First Serteep with its special cordons, and bearer of the Order of St. Ann of the First Class adorned with diamonds, and of the Order of the Mejediah of the First Class, and of the First Order of the Iron Crown, and the First Order of Leopold, and the First Order of Dannebrog, and the First Order of St. Maurice and Lazare, and the First Order of the Saviour of Greece, and the Order of the Polar Star of Sweden, and the Second Order of the Legion of Honour, and the First Order of the Osmaniah, and the First Order of the White Eagle with the blue cordon;

And the aforesaid distinguished Representatives, after meeting in the capital of Tehran, and perusing and exchanging their letters of full power, and finding them in due order, have concluded the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.

In order to provide against any possible accident to the Persian Gulf cable, it is agreed between the High Contracting Governments of England and Persia, that the British Government shall make arrangements with regard to the construction and efficient working of a line of telegraph between Guadur and a point between Jask and Bender Abbas.

ARTICLE II.

The Persian Government will employ, as far as possible, their good offices and authority for facilitating its construction, maintenance, and protection; and the English Government will pay annually to the Persian Government the sum of three thousand tomans for leave to lay down the line of telegraph on those coasts and places which are under the sovereignty of Persia, the payment of the above sum being made from the day on which the work of laying the wires is commenced.

ARTICLE III.

The present Convention shall remain in force for twenty years.

ARTICLE IV.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Tehran within five months, or sooner if practicable.

Done at Tehran on the second day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

(L.S.) C. ALISON.

(L.S.) MEERZA SAEED KHAN.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and
the Shah of Persia, for extending and
securing Telegraphic Communication
between Europe and India.

*Signed, in the English and Persian Languages,
at Tehran, April 2, 1868.*

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1d.*]

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PROTOCOL

RELATIVE TO THE

ADMISSION OF BRITISH SUBJECTS IN TURKEY

TO THE

RIGHT OF HOLDING REAL PROPERTY.

Signed at Constantinople, July 28, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

Protocol relative to the Admission of British Subjects in Turkey to the Right of Holding Real Property.

Signed at Constantinople, July 28, 1868.

Protocole.

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, désirant constater, par un acte spécial, l'entente intervenue entre Eux sur l'admission des sujets Anglais en Turquie au droit de propriété immobilière, concédé aux étrangers par la Loi promulguée en date du 7 Sefer, 1284, ont autorisé—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, son Excellence le Très-Honorable Henry Elliot, Son Ambassadeur à Constantinople ;

Et Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, son Altesse Fuad Pacha, son Ministre des Affaires Etrangères ;

A signer le Protocole dont la teneur suit :—

PROTOCOLE.

La loi qui accorde aux étrangers le droit de propriété immobilière ne porte aucune atteinte aux immunités consacrées par les Traités, et qui continueront à couvrir la personne et les biens meubles des étrangers devenus propriétaires d'immeubles.

L'exercice de ce droit de propriété devant engager les étrangers à s'établir en plus grand nombre sur le territoire Ottoman, le Gouvernement Impérial croit de son devoir de prévoir et de prévenir les difficultés auxquelles l'application de cette loi pourrait donner lieu dans certaines localités. Tel est l'objet des arrangements qui vont suivre.

La demeure de toute personne habitant le sol Ottoman étant inviolable, et nul ne pouvant y pénétrer sans le consentement du maître, si ce n'est en vertu d'ordres émanés de l'autorité compétente et avec l'assistance du magistrat ou fonctionnaire investi des pouvoirs nécessaires, la demeure du sujet étranger est inviolable au même titre, conformément aux Traités ; et les agents de la force publique ne peuvent y pénétrer sans l'assistance du Consul ou du délégué du Consul dont relève cet étranger.

On entend par demeure la maison d'habitation et ses attenances, c'est-à-dire, les communs, cours, jardins et enclos contigus, à l'exclusion de toutes les autres parties de la propriété.

Dans les localités éloignées de moins de neuf heures de la résidence Consulaire, les agents de la force publique ne pourront pénétrer dans la demeure d'un étranger sans l'assistance du Consul, comme il est dit plus haut. De son côté, le Consul est tenu de prêter son assistance immédiate à l'autorité locale, de telle sorte qu'il ne s'écoule pas plus de six heures entre l'instant où il aura été prévenu et l'instant de son départ ou du départ de son délégué, afin que l'action de l'autorité ne puisse jamais être suspendue durant plus de vingt-quatre heures.

Dans les localités éloignées de neuf heures ou de plus de neuf heures de marche de la résidence de l'Agent Consulaire, les agents de la force publique pourront, sur la réquisition de l'autorité locale et avec l'assistance de trois Membres du Conseil des Anciens de la commune, pénétrer dans la demeure d'un sujet étranger, sans être assistés de l'Agent Consulaire, mais seulement en cas d'urgence et pour la recherche ou la constatation du crime de meurtre, de tentative de meurtre, d'incendie, de vol à main armée ou avec effraction, ou de nuit, dans une maison habitée, de rébellion armée et de fabrication de fausse monnaie ; et ce, soit que le crime ait été commis par un sujet étranger ou par un sujet Ottoman, et soit qu'il ait eu lieu dans l'habitation de l'étranger, ou en dehors de cette habitation et dans quelque autre lieu que ce soit.

Ces dispositions ne sont applicables qu'aux parties de la propriété qui constituent la demeure telle qu'elle a été définie plus haut. En dehors de la demeure, l'action de la police s'exercera librement et sans réserve ; mais dans le cas où un individu prévenu de

crime ou de délit serait arrêté et que ce prévenu serait un sujet étranger, les immunités attachées à sa personne devraient être observées à son égard.

Le fonctionnaire ou officier chargé de l'accomplissement de la visite domiciliaire, dans les circonstances exceptionnelles déterminées plus haut, et les Membres du Conseil des Anciens qui l'assisteront, seront tenus de dresser procès-verbal de la visite domiciliaire et de le communiquer immédiatement à l'autorité supérieure dont ils relèvent, qui le transmettra elle-même et sans retard à l'Agent Consulaire le plus rapproché.

Un règlement spécial sera promulgué par la Sublime Porte pour déterminer le mode d'action de la police locale dans les différents cas prévus plus haut.

Dans les localités distantes de plus de neuf heures de la résidence de l'Agent Consulaire et dans lesquelles la loi sur l'organisation judiciaire du vilayet sera en vigueur, les sujets étrangers seront jugés, sans l'assistance du Délégué Consulaire, par le Conseil des Anciens remplissant les fonctions de Juge de Paix, et par le Tribunal du Caza, tant pour les contestations n'excédant pas mille piastres que pour les contraventions n'entraînant que la condamnation à une amende de 500 piastres au maximum.

Les sujets étrangers auront dans tous les cas le droit d'interjeter appel par devant le Tribunal du Sandjak des sentences rendues comme il est dit ci-dessus; et l'appel sera suivi et jugé avec l'assistance du Consul, conformément aux Traités.

L'appel suspendra toujours l'exécution.

Dans tous les cas l'exécution forcée des sentences rendues dans les conditions déterminées plus haut ne pourra avoir lieu sans le concours du Consul ou de son délégué.

Le Gouvernement Impérial édictera une loi qui déterminera les règles de procédure à observer par les parties dans l'application des dispositions qui précèdent.

Les sujets étrangers, en quelque localité que ce soit, sont autorisés à se rendre spontanément justiciables du Conseil des Anciens ou des Tribunaux des Cazas, sans l'assistance du Consul, dans les contestations dont l'objet n'excède pas la compétence de ces Conseils ou Tribunaux, sauf le droit d'appel par devant le Tribunal du Sandjak, où la cause sera appelée et jugée avec l'assistance du Consul ou de son délégué.

Toutefois, le consentement du sujet étranger à se faire juger comme il est dit plus haut sans l'assistance du Consul, devra être donné par écrit et préalablement à toute procédure.

Il est bien entendu que toutes ces restrictions ne concernent point les procès qui ont pour objet une question de propriété immobilière, lesquels seront poursuivis et jugés dans les conditions établies par la loi.

Le droit de défense et la publicité des audiences sont assurés en toute matière aux étrangers qui comparaitront devant les Tribunaux Ottomans, aussi bien qu'aux sujets Ottomans.

Les arrangements qui précèdent resteront en vigueur jusqu'à la révision des anciens Traités, révision sur laquelle la Sublime Porte se réserve de provoquer ultérieurement une entente entre elle et les Puissances amies.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Protocole et y ont apposé le sceau de leurs armes.

Fait à Constantinople, le vingt-huitième jour du mois de Juillet, de l'année dix huit cent soixante-huit.

(L.S.)

HENRY ELLIOT.

(L.S.)

FUAD.

Loi concédant aux Etrangers le Droit de Propriété Immobilière dans l'Empire Ottoman.

RESCRIT IMPÉRIAL.

“Qu'il soit fait en conformité du contenu.”

Le 7 Sépher, 1284.

Dans le but de développer la prospérité du pays, de mettre fin aux difficultés, aux abus et incertitudes qui se produisent au sujet de l'exercice du droit de propriété par les étrangers dans l'Empire Ottoman, et de compléter, au moyen d'une réglementation précise, les garanties dues aux intérêts financiers et à l'action administrative, les dispositions législatives suivantes ont été arrêtées sur l'ordre de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan.

ARTICLE I.

Les étrangers sont admis, au même titre que les sujets Ottomans, sans autres conditions, à jouir du droit de propriété des immeubles urbains ou ruraux dans toute l'étendue de l'Empire, à l'exception de la province de l'Hédjaz, en se soumettant aux lois et règlements qui régissent les sujets Ottomans eux-mêmes, comme il est dit ci-après.

Cette disposition ne concerne point les sujets Ottomans de naissance qui ont changé de nationalité, lesquels seront régis en cette matière par une loi spéciale.

ARTICLE II.

Les étrangers, propriétaires d'immeubles urbains ou ruraux, sont en conséquence assimilés aux sujets Ottomans en tout ce qui concerne leurs biens immeubles.

Cette assimilation a pour effet légal :

1. De les obliger à se conformer à toutes les lois et à tous les règlements de police ou municipaux qui régissent dans le présent et pourront régir dans l'avenir la jouissance, la transmission, l'aliénation, et l'hypothèque des propriétés foncières.

2. D'acquitter toutes les charges et contributions, sous quelque forme et sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, frappant ou pouvant frapper par la suite les immeubles urbains ou ruraux.

3. De les rendre directement justiciables des tribunaux civils Ottomans, pour toutes les questions relatives à la propriété foncière, et pour toutes actions réelles, tant comme demandeurs que comme défendeurs, même lorsque l'une et autre partie sont sujets étrangers ; le tout au même titre, dans les mêmes conditions, et dans les mêmes formes que les propriétaires Ottomans, et sans qu'ils puissent en cette matière se prévaloir de leur nationalité personnelle ; mais sous la réserve des immunités attachées à leur personne et à leurs biens meubles, aux termes des Traités.

ARTICLE III.

En cas de faillite d'un étranger propriétaire d'immeubles, les syndics de sa faillite se pourvoiront devant l'autorité et les tribunaux civils Ottomans pour requérir la vente des immeubles possédés par le failli et qui, par leur nature et suivant la loi, répondent des dettes du propriétaire.

Il en sera de même lorsqu'un étranger aura obtenu contre un autre étranger propriétaire d'immeubles un jugement de condamnation devant les tribunaux étrangers.

Pour l'exécution de ce jugement sur les biens immeubles de son débiteur, il s'adressera à l'autorité Ottomane compétente afin d'obtenir la vente de ceux de ces immeubles qui répondent des dettes du propriétaire ; et ce jugement ne sera exécuté par les autorités et tribunaux Ottomans qu'après qu'ils auront constaté que les immeubles dont on requiert la vente appartiennent réellement à la catégorie de ceux qui peuvent être vendus pour payer la dette.

ARTICLE IV.

Le sujet étranger a la faculté de disposer par donation ou par testament de ceux de ses biens immeubles dont la disposition sous cette forme est permise par la loi.

Quant aux immeubles dont il n'aura pas disposé ou dont la loi ne lui permet pas de disposer par donation ou testament, la succession en sera réglée conformément à la loi Ottomane.

ARTICLE V.

Tout sujet étranger jouira du bénéfice de la présente loi, dès que la Puissance de laquelle il relève aura adhéré aux arrangements proposés par la Sublime Porte pour l'exercice du droit de propriété.

Constantinople, le 18 Juin, 1867.

(Translation.)

Protocol.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, being desirous to establish, by a special Act, the understanding arrived at between them with regard to the admission of English subjects

in Turkey to the right of holding real property, conceded to foreigners by the law promulgated under date of the 7th Sepher, 1284, have authorized—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Excellency the Right Honourable Henry Elliot, Her Ambassador at Constantinople ;

And His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, his Highness Fuad Pasha, his Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

To sign the Protocol which hereinafter follows :—

PROTOCOL.

The law which grants to foreigners the right to hold real property does not in any way affect the immunities sanctioned by Treaties, which will continue to cover the person and the personal property of foreigners who may have become proprietors of real estate.

The exercise of such right of property being likely to induce foreigners to establish themselves in greater numbers in Ottoman territory, the Imperial Government deems itself bound to anticipate and prevent the difficulties to which the application of that law may give rise in certain localities. This is the object of the following arrangements.

The dwelling of every person inhabiting the Ottoman territory being inviolable, and no one being entitled to enter it without the consent of its master, unless in virtue of orders issued by the competent authority, and with the assistance of the magistrate or functionary invested with the necessary powers, the dwelling of a foreign subject is inviolable by the same right, in conformity with Treaties ; and the officers of police cannot enter therein without the assistance of the Consul of the country to which the foreigner belongs, or of his delegate.

By the term dwelling is understood the house of residence and its appurtenances, that is to say, the out-houses, courts, gardens, and contiguous inclosures, to the exclusion of all other parts of the property.

In localities distant less than nine hours from the Consular residence, the officers of police cannot enter the dwelling of a foreigner without the assistance of the Consul, as above stated. On his part the Consul is bound to afford his aid immediately to the local authority, so that not more than six hours shall elapse between the moment when he shall have been apprized, and the moment of the departure of himself or of his delegate, in order that the action of the authorities may never be suspended for more than twenty-four hours.

In localities distant nine hours', or more than nine hours' journey from the residence of the Consular Agent, the officers of police may, on the requisition of the local authority, and with the assistance of three members of the Council of Ancients of the Commune, enter the dwelling of a foreign subject, without the presence of the Consular Agent, but only in case of urgency, and for the investigation or the proof of the crime of murder, of attempt to murder, of arson, of robbery with violence, or with housebreaking, or at night in an inhabited dwelling, of armed rebellion, and of the fabrication of false money ; and whether the crime shall have been committed by a foreign subject, or by an Ottoman subject, and whether it shall have taken place within the habitation of the foreigner, or outside of such habitation, and in any other place whatever.

These arrangements are applicable only to those parts of the property which constitute the dwelling, as defined above. Beyond the dwelling, the action of the police shall be free and without reserve ; but in case an individual accused of a crime or offence should be arrested, and the accused be a foreign subject, the immunities attaching to his person shall be observed with regard to him.

The functionary or officer charged with the performance of the domiciliary visit, under the exceptional circumstances above described, and the members of the Council of Ancients who shall assist him, shall be bound to draw up a Minute of the domiciliary visit, and to communicate it immediately to their superior authority, who shall himself transmit it without delay to the nearest Consular authority.

A special regulation shall be promulgated by the Sublime Porte, in order to determine the mode of action of the local police in the different cases above contemplated.

In localities distant more than nine hours from the residence of the Consular Agent, and in which the law relative to the judicial organization of the *vilayet* shall be in force, the cases of foreign subjects shall be tried, without the assistance of the Consular delegate, by the Council of Ancients fulfilling the functions of Judge of the Peace, and by the Court of the *Caza*, as well in actions the subject-matter of which shall not exceed 1,000 piastres, as in offences punishable by a fine not exceeding 500 piastres.

Foreign subjects shall, in all cases, have the right to appeal to the Court of the *Sandjak* against decisions given as above described ; and the appeal shall be heard and decided with the assistance of the Consul, in conformity with Treaties.

An appeal shall always suspend execution.

In no case can the forcible execution of decisions given under the circumstances above described take place without the concurrence of the Consul or his deputy.

The Imperial Government shall issue a Law which shall determine the rules of procedure to be observed by the parties in the application of the foregoing arrangements.

Foreign subjects, in whatever place, are authorized to make themselves voluntarily amenable to the Council of Ancients, or to the Courts of the *Cazas*, without the assistance of the Consul, in actions the subject-matter of which does not exceed the competence of those Councils or Courts, saving, however, the right of appeal to the Court of the *Sandjak*, where the cause shall be heard and decided with the assistance of the Consul or his delegate.

The consent, however, of the foreign subject to submit to the jurisdiction above described, without the assistance of the Consul, must be given in writing, and previously to any proceeding.

It is well understood that all these restrictions do not concern suits involving a question of real property, which shall be carried on and decided under the conditions established by the Law.

The right of defence and of publicity of hearing are secured in all matters to foreigners who shall appear before the Ottoman Courts, as well as to Ottoman subjects.

The preceding arrangements shall remain in force until the revision of the ancient Treaties, a revision with regard to which the Sublime Porte reserves to itself to come hereafter to an agreement with friendly Powers.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Constantinople, the twenty-eighth day of July, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-eight.

(L.S.)

HENRY ELLIOT.

(L.S.)

FUAD.

Law granting to Foreigners the right to hold Real Property in the Ottoman Empire.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT.

“Let it be done in conformity with what is herein contained.”

Sepher 7, 1284.

With the view to develop the prosperity of the country, to put an end to the difficulties, abuses, and uncertainties which arise relative to the exercise of the right of property by foreigners in the Ottoman Empire, and to complete, by means of precise regulations, the guarantees due to financial interests and to administrative action, the following legislative arrangements have been determined by order of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan :—

ARTICLE I.

Foreigners are admitted, on the same footing as Ottoman subjects, and without other conditions, to the enjoyment of the right of holding urban or rural real property throughout the whole extent of the Empire, with the exception of the province of the Hedjaz, submitting to the laws and regulations which govern Ottoman subjects themselves, as hereinafter stated.

This arrangement does not concern Ottoman subjects by birth who have changed their nationality, and who shall be governed in regard to this matter by a special law.

ARTICLE II.

Foreigners who are proprietors of real property, urban or rural, are in consequence assimilated to Ottoman subjects in all that concerns their real property.

Such assimilation has for its legal effect :—

1. To oblige them to conform to all the laws and all the police or municipal regulations which at present govern, or may hereafter govern, the enjoyment, transmission, alienation, and hypothecation of landed property.

2. To pay all the charges and contributions, under whatever form or denomination, which are now or may hereafter be imposed on urban or rural real property.

3. To render them directly amenable to the Ottoman Civil Courts in regard to all

questions relative to landed property, and to all real actions, both as plaintiffs and as defendants, even when both parties are foreign subjects, the whole on the same footing, under the same conditions, and in the same forms as Ottoman proprietors, and without the power of availing themselves in such matters of their personal nationality; but under the reservation of the immunities attaching to their persons and their personal property, according to the terms of Treaties.

ARTICLE III.

In case of the bankruptcy of a foreign owner of real property, the syndics of his bankruptcy shall take the necessary steps before the Ottoman authorities and Civil Courts, in order to demand the sale of the real property possessed by the bankrupt, which, from its nature and in accordance with the law, is liable for the debts of the owner.

The same course shall be observed when a foreigner shall have obtained against another foreign proprietor of real property an adverse judgment before foreign Courts.

For the execution of such judgment on the real property of his debtor, he shall apply to the competent Ottoman authority in order to obtain the sale of such part of that real property as is liable for the debts of the owner; and such judgment shall not be carried into execution by the Ottoman authorities and Courts until after they shall have ascertained that the real property which is required to be sold really belongs to the class which may be sold in order to pay the debt.

ARTICLE IV.

The foreign subject has the right to dispose by gift or by will of such part of his real property as the law permits to be disposed of in that manner.

With regard to the real property which he may not have disposed of, or which the law does not allow to be disposed of by gift or by will, the succession thereto shall be governed by the Ottoman law.

ARTICLE V.

Every foreign subject shall enjoy the benefit of the present Law, so soon as the Power to which he belongs shall have acceded to the arrangements proposed by the Sublime Porte for the exercise of the right of property.

Constantinople, June 18, 1867.

TURKEY.

Protocol relative to the Admission of British
Subjects in Turkey to the Right of Holding Real
Property.

Signed at Constantinople, July 28, 1868.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1869.*

[*Price 1½d.*]

LONDON:

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE



RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

BETWEEN

TURKEY AND GREECE.

1868-69.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:
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ERRATA.

Pages 32, 51, 82 and 83, for M. T. Delyanni read M. J. Delyanni.

Correspondence respecting the Rupture of Diplomatic Relations between Turkey and Greece : 1868—69.

No. 1.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 25, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch I have addressed to Mr. Erskine, stating that if any important departure of volunteers for Crete is connived at by the Greek Government, the rupture of relations and the expulsion of all Hellenic subjects from Turkey may be looked upon as inevitable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Constantinople, November 25, 1868.

I HAVE just received your telegram of the 23rd instant, stating that it is said that 1,000 volunteers, of whom some are soldiers, are about to embark at Cerigo for Crete.

If it shall turn out that any important departure of volunteers takes place, with the apparent connivance of the Greek Government, a rupture with Turkey may be looked upon as inevitable.

The packet is upon the point of sailing, and there is no time for me to ascertain the correctness of the information or learn the intentions of the Turkish Government; but the language which has been lately held to me by them convinces me that the rupture of relations, and the expulsion of all Hellenic subjects from Turkey, may be calculated upon in the event of any gross violation of international duties by the Greek Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 2.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 25, 1868.

I REGRET to inform your Lordship that the Greek Government are daily becoming more and more aggressive in their attitude towards Turkey. Volunteers are being openly enrolled here for an expedition to assist the insurgents in Crete, soldiers and even artillerymen from the regular army are encouraged to volunteer for this service, funds are being furnished to the Cretan Committee at Syra to enable the "Enosis" to convey supplies to the insurgents, Armstrong guns from the Government arsenal at Nauplia have been sent to arm the "Enosis" or to be landed in Crete, and the Commander-in-chief of North-western Greece, Colonel Scalzo Dimos, has been summoned to Athens, to place himself, as it is said, at the head of the insurgent forces in Crete.

On the 19th instant, the well-known Mainiote Chief Petropoulaki left Athens in the steamer "Panhellenion" for Gythion in Lakonia. He was accompanied by a considerable body of volunteers, many of whom had been recruited from the regular army and were dressed in uniform. On his way to embark at the Piræus a Greek flag was displayed from the carriage, and everything appears to have been done to attract attention and to prove

to the nation that the Government are in earnest in the support they are now affording to the insurrection. It is said that on its arrival in Maina the corps of Petropoulaki will be raised to about 1,000 men, and that it will then be transported to Cerigo or Cerigotto, whence it will proceed to Crete in the steamers "Crete," "Enosis," and "Panhellenion."

Mr. Consul Lloyd writes from Syra on the 18th instant:—"Money has been received from Athens by the Committee here; some 100,000 drachmas, I believe, in Treasury bills, which are discounted here at 16 and 17 per cent., and this is how some of the money goes. . . . Yesterday there arrived here a small Greek Government steamer, ostensibly for the purpose of going to some of the islands to take the Deputies to Athens; but I hear she has on board two Armstrong guns (40-pounders), which it is intended to put on board the 'Enosis,' though for what purpose I can hardly imagine. . . . They have been landed at the Greek Steam Navigation Company's works, to be adapted to the 'Enosis.'" On the 21st, he adds:—"On the evening of the 18th, the 'Enosis' left Syra for Crete, and has just returned; she reports having landed her cargo at Chryso of Selino, between Suja and Tripeti, without molestation, on Thursday night. Sawas Pasha was at Franco-Castelli, with troops, for an attack on Sphakia. The 'Panhellenion' has left for the Piræus, as it is said, to take on board Petropoulaki and a number of volunteers and small cannon. She will then go to Nauplia, to fetch more men; when the whole will be brought here to embark in the 'Enosis.'"

On the 23rd instant, Mr. Lloyd writes:—"The 'Enosis' again left Syra on Saturday evening, as is said, for Messara. . . . The 'Panhellenion' has not yet returned. . . . We hope she will go direct to Cerigotto, and not come here with her cargo of roughs. . . . The two Armstrong guns for the 'Enosis' are still here. . . . The Clerk of the Turkish Consul, Mr. Axelos, was beaten yesterday by some Cretans. Mr. Axelos has complained to the Nomarch, who has referred him to the Procureur du Roi and the Tribunals."

The Turkish Government have, as your Lordship is aware, chartered two merchant-steamers under the French flag, which are to be sent here to be placed at the disposal of any Cretan refugees who may be desirous of returning to their own country; but these vessels have not yet arrived, and from the turn which events are taking, I think it highly improbable that any considerable number of refugees will care or will be allowed to embark. The French Admiral is instructed to afford his "moral support" to any vessels under the French flag chartered for this purpose; but the Greek Government are too well aware of the real meaning of the Admiral's instructions to be deterred from the course they are pursuing by any apprehension of actual interference on the part of the French squadron in these waters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 3.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 7.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 28, 1868.

AS I am informed by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople that, should the Hellenic Government openly connive at the departure of a large body of volunteers for Crete, the Porte is resolved to break off diplomatic relations with Greece, and to expel all the Hellenic subjects residing in Turkey, I think it advisable to place on record the circumstances which, in my opinion, tend to establish the fact that such connivance has taken place:—

1. For some time past it had been well known to every one in Athens that Petropoulaki was raising a body of volunteers to aid the insurgents in Crete; and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, when spoken to on the subject, contented himself with replying that Greek citizens had a right to go where they pleased; and that the laws of Greece did not authorize the Government to interfere, even with such an expedition as that of Petropoulaki.

2. On or about the 18th instant, a steamer called the "Panhellenion," belonging to the Greek Steam Navigation Company, was specially dispatched from Syra to embark the volunteers at the Piræus. The regular steamer touching at the different ports of the Peloponnesus leaves the Piræus on Monday, whereas this vessel started on Thursday evening from the Piræus, and, in a small place like this, it is impossible that her proceedings should not have attracted the attention of the authorities. On the 25th instant, Mr. Consul Lloyd further reported that the "Panhellenion" had just returned to Syra,

after, as was stated there, landing 200 volunteers at Gythion, which is a small port at the southern extremity of the Peloponnesus, by which communication is kept up with Maina, a province of which Petropoulaki is a native, and whence it was said that the bulk of the recruits for his expedition was to be derived. I cannot state precisely how many volunteers left the Piræus in the "Panhellenion," but it is said about 180, and upwards of 100 were seen by the French Consul and others as they were about to embark. They were not, I believe, all armed with muskets; but many of them wore uniform, with large boots, and of course their arms could have been served out to them on board. I have further been informed, on what I consider good authority, that 50 artillerymen and 60 firemen ("pompiers") were induced to volunteer for this expedition; but as I have no proof, I will not insist on this point.

3. On the arrival of the steamer at Nauplia, Petropoulaki immediately placed himself in communication with the authorities, and was furnished by them with several small rifled guns, besides the stores of all kinds requisite for an expeditionary force of the sort. I am told, moreover, that he was joined by thirty or forty men at Nauplia, which would about raise the expedition to the strength mentioned by Mr. Lloyd.

4. A Government vessel (which I have ascertained to be the "Aphroessa") landed two 40-pounder Armstrong guns at the works of the Greek Steam Navigation Company at Syra, and it is understood that they will be mounted and placed on board the "Enosis."

Now, it appears to me that the body of evidence above mentioned is sufficient to prove, not merely that the Hellenic Government have done nothing to prevent the departure of this expedition, but that they have actually contributed to its equipment; nor can I doubt that they have furnished a part, at least, of the funds necessary for the payment of the men.

If, therefore, these 200 men, reinforced by others who may be raised by Petropoulaki in Maina, should succeed in effecting a landing in Crete, the Hellenic Government will undoubtedly have incurred a grave liability towards the Porte.

On the 22nd instant, the "Enosis" landed a cargo and ten Cretans at Miston, in the Province of Rhison, in the south-east of Crete, returning to Syra on the 24th.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 4.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 25th ultimo, and to information which I have received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, the substance of which he has communicated to you, respecting steps about to be taken by the Porte in consequence of the aggressive attitude of Greece towards Turkey, I have now to state to you that as the matter is urgent and admits of no delay, I feel it incumbent upon me to furnish you with instructions on the subject instead of, as I should have preferred, leaving the question to be dealt with by my successor.

Under the circumstances I cannot hesitate to instruct you, therefore, by the present despatch, as I have already done by telegraph, to warn the Greek Government of the serious danger in which they are involving Greece, and of the certainty that they can expect no countenance or support from other Powers in a contest with Turkey, wantonly provoked on the part of Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 5.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 9.)

(Extract.)

Compiègne, December 8, 1868.

THE Marquis de Moustier showed me yesterday a telegram which he had received from M. Bourée, the French Ambassador at Constantinople. He had, he said, lost no time in sending directions by telegraph to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne to communicate it to your Lordship. It related, in fact, to a matter of very serious importance, and

one which admitted of no delay. In short, it appeared that if some means were not found before the end of the week of improving the relations between Turkey and Greece, the Porte would dismiss the Greek Minister from Constantinople, close its harbours against Greek ships, and force all Hellenic subjects to quit the Ottoman dominions.

M. Bourée telegraphed that he had obtained the delay till the end of the week with the greatest difficulty, and was convinced that it would be impossible to induce the Porte to prolong it, unless Greece complied with the ultimatum laid down. M. de Moustier thought that M. Bourée was right in this opinion. On first hearing the rumour that the Porte intended to break off relations with Greece, M. de Moustier had telegraphed to M. Bourée. The telegram which he had shown me contained Aali Pasha's answer. I had, he said, seen that his Highness had declared that he could not listen any more to counsels which had now for more than two years been followed with disastrous results. M. de Moustier was in fact convinced that the Porte was fully resolved to execute what it had threatened, unless it received satisfaction before the end of the week.

He had, he said, spoken in this sense to M. Rangabé, the Greek Minister at Paris, who had just left him. He had used very calm and moderate language in speaking to M. Rangabé, and had begged him to see in this calmness and moderation a proof of the very serious importance which he attached to the dangerous crisis at which the relations between Turkey and Greece had arrived.

M. de Moustier did not, in speaking to me, propose any definite course of action, but said that he was extremely desirous that our two Governments should act together. He appeared to be very anxious that instructions should be sent immediately to Her Majesty's Minister at Athens to act energetically and unreservedly in concert with Baron Baude.

The case was, he said, extremely urgent; in fact, if anything was to be done by us to avert a rupture between Turkey and Greece, it must be done before Saturday next, the 12th instant. He trusted that, even under present circumstances, Her Majesty's Government might be able to give immediate attention to it.

No. 6.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 11.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 29, 1868.

I RECEIVED, this afternoon, from Mr. Erskine, a copy of his despatch to your Lordship of the 25th instant, reporting the aggressive attitude adopted by the Greek Government towards Turkey, and I subsequently called upon the Grand Vizier, and inquired what account had been received by the Porte from their Minister at Athens.

Aali Pasha regretted to have to say that Photiades Bey's despatches left little prospect of it being possible for the Sultan's Government to avoid breaking off relations with Greece. He then read me a portion of these reports, which exactly coincided with Mr. Erskine's account of the open encouragement which is being given by the Greek Government to the enrolment of volunteers for Crete, of the enlistment of soldiers for the service, and of their having received arms from the Government stores.

Photiades Bey adds, that he had reason to believe that the whole garrison of Nauplia were being encouraged to take part in it.

In the face of such unwarrantable proceedings, it was not possible, Aali Pasha said, for a Government with any feelings of self-respect to remain passive.

The Turkish Government had carried patience and forbearance to their utmost; but there were limits beyond which they could not go without degenerating into weakness, which public opinion would not tolerate.

The Sultan could not allow his Representative to remain at Athens, to be witness of what was now going on there, and a rupture of the relations of the two countries seemed, therefore, unavoidable.

The Greeks would probably care little for the recall of the Turkish Legation from Athens, or of the Greek Legation from Constantinople; but if the Porte found it necessary to take the step which was almost forced upon them, they would accompany it with the expulsion from the Turkish Empire of all Greek subjects, and with the exclusion of Greek vessels from Turkish waters.

I said that before such a serious step was decided on, I hoped he would carefully weigh all the consequences it might involve.

I was ready freely to admit, what I imagined few Governments or individuals would be prepared to contest, that the proceedings described in the last despatches from Greece would sufficiently justify the Porte in openly resenting them, and that they could not be accused of precipitancy nor of violence if they acted as his Highness proposed.

Nevertheless, the measure hinted at was not one lightly to be adopted, the more especially as it would almost appear as though a rupture were what the Greek Government were now aiming at.

The progress that had latterly been made in the suppression of the Cretan insurrection rendered it evident that no great length of time could elapse before its entire extinction might be calculated upon, unless it were artificially excited and kept alive by renewed interference from abroad: and it was not impossible that the Greek Government are now provoking a rupture with Turkey, in the hopes that it might lead to complications which may ultimately cause a European intervention, now that they hope to see in England a Government more favourable to Greek pretensions.

Aali Pasha inquired what injurious effect upon Turkey such an intervention could now have?

Was it to be supposed after Turkey had shown herself able to reduce the island to submission, not only without assistance, but in spite of moral and material support afforded to the insurgents by foreign Governments, that the Powers should step in and hand the island over to Greece.

I said, I agreed with him in looking upon such a proceeding as impossible; but a rupture of relations, and the expulsion of the Greek subjects from Turkey, might easily lead to further questions, which the Governments hostile to Turkey might not be unwilling to take advantage of.

Incursions into Thessaly and Epirus might be looked to as the first consequence, and the numerous Greek sailors who now find their livelihood in Turkish waters might be expected to give trouble.

With regard to the frontier, Aali Pasha said, he had not a shade of anxiety; for the Porte were fully able to answer for the tranquillity of the border provinces; and he did not attach much importance to anything the Greek sailors might do now; that nearly the whole of Candia is in the hands of the Imperial troops.

Nevertheless, he did not conceal from himself the gravity of the step he had spoken of, and deeply regretted that it seems to be forced upon the Government.

I said, I had thought it right to urge him to act with all deliberation in so momentous a matter, without calling in question his perfect right to proceed as he proposes; but it was with difficulty I refrained from adding that, in the position in which things have now arrived, I fully agreed with him in considering that the Porte could not avoid the adoption of vigorous measures without a sacrifice of self-respect, greater than any Government can be expected to submit to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 7.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley,—(Received December 11.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, December 1, 1868.

THE Grand Vizier yesterday informed the Sultan that, in his opinion, the Greek Government had carried their aggressive policy to a point which left his Majesty no alternative but to break off the relations between the two countries.

His Majesty has given his cordial assent to a measure which seems imperatively called for by the neglect or violation by the Greek Government of all the duties due to a neighbouring State, and a Council of Ministers is called for to-morrow, when the decision of the Sultan and of the Grand Vizier will be submitted to them, and immediately put into execution.

The resolution is, no doubt, one of very serious import, even if it should not lead to anything further. The Hellenic subjects are so numerous throughout the Empire, and have so large a share in commercial and industrial affairs, while their navigation so far exceeds that of any other nation in the Turkish waters, that their expulsion will inflict upon very many individuals a loss that can hardly be calculated, and must produce a disturbance that will be extensively felt in commercial affairs.

*The Turkish Government do not shut their eyes to the gravity of the step they are about to take, but they consider that they have no choice left; that the authority of the Sultan would sink too low in the minds of his people, were he longer, without resenting it, to tolerate proceedings which have pushed his forbearance to a point beyond which its continuance would only be attributed to inability to take the measures that would long ago have been adopted by any other independent Sovereign under similar provocation.

On the other hand, Greece has become convinced that there was no amount of provocation that Turkey would dare or be permitted to resent.

If Turkey is to continue to exist, she must show that she has the elements of vitality, and that she has still at least, sufficient strength to enforce respect from a fourth-rate State.

She cannot be accused of aggression, but, while asking for no assistance from any quarter, she has a right to expect that, if driven to strong measures by the long continued and increasing hostility of a neighbour, there may be extended to her by the European Powers that principle of non-intervention which is now so generally invoked in international questions.

That the insurrection in Crete has been prolonged, and is now kept alive in great part by the belief that nothing could move the Turkish Government to action, is a truth which few who are acquainted with the facts, would venture to dispute.

Of the numerous Greeks enjoying the protection of the Turkish law, and carrying on, for the most part, lucrative business in the Turkish Empire, there is hardly one who has not subscribed for the support of the insurrection; some doing so from sympathy in the cause, but many more because they could not venture to refuse their countrymen.

The Greeks are, however, shrewd calculators, and can reckon their profits pretty closely, and it may safely be affirmed that if they had suspected that their encouragement of the insurrection would lead to their own expulsion, their sympathy for the insurgents would have remained within moderate bounds.

No. 8.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 11.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 2, 1868.

THE Hellenic Government continue to throw every obstacle in their power in the way of the embarkation of the Cretan refugees; and the Turkish Minister has had some difficulty in getting about 200 on board the French merchant-steamer chartered by the Turkish Government, which will, I believe, sail from the Piræus to-night or to-morrow morning for Crete.

M. Bulgaris having held out some hope to Photiades Bey, a few days ago, that the Government would take effectual measures for the protection of the refugees desirous of returning to Crete, who are now in the island of Ægina, a small sailing-vessel was sent over with about twenty Cretans to endeavour to remove the families of those who wished to return home; but the men dispatched on this errand were, as usual, met by the opposite party, who beat and ill-used them to such an extent, that they were too happy to re-embark and set sail for the Piræus.

This morning M. Bulgaris has sent to apologize to M. Photiades for what occurred on that occasion, and to promise that more effectual measures shall be adopted another time; but M. Photiades has received so many such promises that he no longer believes that the Hellenic Government are acting in this matter with good faith, or that anything effectual will be done until some energetic step on the part of his Government shall have been adopted.

Mr. Consul Merlin has reported to me, that on the 28th ultimo, two Cretans were shamefully ill-treated and beaten by their countrymen at the Piræus, to prevent them from embarking or persuading others to embark; and he adds, that several police constables who were on the spot, refrained from interfering until the obnoxious Cretans had been soundly beaten. They are now on board the French steamer at the Piræus, with their heads broken. Similar scenes are taking place both here and at the Piræus almost daily; and on more than one occasion very serious disturbances have been prevented only by the interference of a mounted patrol.

M. Delyanni does not deny that soldiers were enlisted by Petropoulaki for his expedition to Crete; but he affirms that the Nomarch of Nauplia succeeded in detaching them from the band; and that Petropoulaki was ultimately expelled from Nauplia without obtaining any assistance or reinforcements there—a statement which I am disposed to receive with some incredulity.

As far as I know, Petropoulaki has not yet left Gythion for Crete; and the prospects of the insurrection appear to be so unpromising, that it is just possible the expedition may, after all, be given up, and a rupture with Turkey thus avoided.

Photiades Bey continues to receive instructions by telegraph to address “energetic remonstrances” to the Greek Government against their apparent connivance with the enemies of the Porte; but, as your Lordship will readily understand, things have gone too

far for such remonstrances to produce any real effect ; and neither the Greek Government nor the Greek people can be induced to believe that the Porte will be permitted to carry out its threat of a diplomatic rupture, or to expel all Hellenic subjects from Turkey.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 9.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 12, 1868.*
I HAVE to instruct you to repeat to the Government of His Hellenic Majesty, as by orders of Her Majesty's present Advisers, the warning which you were instructed by Lord Stanley's despatch of the 7th instant, to give to them in regard to the serious danger in which they were involving Greece, by the course they were pursuing towards Turkey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 10.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 12, 1868.*
I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that I approve the language which you held to Aali Pasha, as reported in your despatch of the 29th ultimo, on the subject of the threatened rupture of the relations between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 11.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 14.)

My Lord, *Athens, December 5, 1868.*
SINCE my despatch of the 28th ultimo was written, I have ascertained from a thoroughly trustworthy source that the band of Petropoulaki spent two whole days at Nauplia ; that it was about 250 strong on its arrival there ; and that it was reinforced by a considerable number of military prisoners, who were liberated on condition of their joining the expedition.

Two mountain guns were supplied to it from the Government Arsenal, in addition to arms and military stores of all kinds, and a sufficient body of artillery-men accompanied the expedition to serve the guns ; but I cannot say for certain whether they were taken from this garrison or that of Nauplia.

Petropoulaki eventually left by land for Tripolitza, and other places in the Peloponnesus, to raise recruits ; and it was understood that he would rejoin the expedition at Gythion, to which place the "Panhellenion" proceeded with the main body of the volunteers.

I mention these circumstances because M. Delyanni assured Photiades Bey that the authorities had succeeded in "detaching" all the soldiers who had joined the expedition before it left Nauplia, and that Petropoulaki had been expelled from the town—a statement which implied that the Government had done its utmost to discountenance the equipment of a force intended for the invasion of a State with which Greece is ostensibly at peace.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 12.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1868.

I HAVE spoken seriously to M. Brailas-Armeni with respect to the policy and proceedings of his Government, and prefaced my remarks by alluding to a report that had reached me of the great expectations entertained in Greece of support from Mr. Gladstone, whose Philhellenism was well known, and who was now at the head of Her Majesty's Government. I said that no one could desire more ardently than Mr. Gladstone the welfare and prosperity of Greece, and it was because he did so that he regretted and condemned the course which had been lately pursued by the Government; a course which was ruinous to her finances, which checked all progress, which could not be successful, and, even if it were eventually to succeed, it would not be profitable to Greece.

The determination of the Greek people still to take part in the Cretan insurrection, with the tacit, if not avowed, assent of the Government, was a violation of international law which the Porte could no longer endure; and the Turkish Government was now about to adopt measures of repression that were much to be regretted, but the right of resort to them could not be impugned.

These measures, provoked by necessity, and for the protection of the Sultan's interests and dignity, might, I said, menace the peace of Europe; and as all the Great Powers of Europe were unanimous in their desire to avert the calamity of war, Greece would be looked upon as incurring a very heavy responsibility if she persisted in a course of policy that might endanger the maintenance of peace.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 13.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 16, 1868.

AS it appears to be the intention of the Greek Government to allow the Turkish Minister to leave Athens in the persuasion that the Protecting Powers will not allow the rupture of the relations with Turkey to degenerate into actual hostilities, I have to state to you that, in as far as Her Majesty's Government are concerned, the Government of His Hellenic Majesty must not expect that any constraint will be placed on the Porte in regard to any measures which she may think proper to take in order to obtain satisfaction from Greece.

You will state to the Greek Government that Her Majesty's Government earnestly recommend them to lose no time in taking such measures,—presuming them, of course, to be in compliance with the just demands of international law and obligation,—as may prevent the rupture of diplomatic relations with Turkey, from degenerating into the hostilities which at the present moment appear to be imminent.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 14.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 5, 1868.

THE Russian Ambassador came to me this morning with the object apparently of inducing me to consent to unite with himself and M. Bourée in taking some joint action to prevent the Ottoman Government from carrying into execution the rupture of the relations with Greece and the expulsion of the Hellenic subjects from Turkey which were known to have been decided upon by the Council of Ministers.

General Ignatieff considered the step to be one of such serious import that, as Representatives of the Protecting Powers of Greece, we were called upon to try to avert a measure which might lead to results that it is impossible now to foresee, and to call upon

the Turkish Government to pause before they took a step which he designated as *hasty and precipitate*.

I had the evening before had a long conversation on the subject with the French Ambassador, and had ascertained that he concurred with me in considering that the provocation which is being systematically given by Greece is so ample and so notorious, that all interference to prevent the Sultan's Government from taking the steps which they think necessary, would be uncalled for and inadvisable.

I therefore told General Ignatieff that I must decline taking any step such as he had hinted at, and that, in my opinion, the only safe policy which we could pursue in Turkey, as in other countries, was one of the strictest non-intervention.

The Greek Government has, I said, lately acted in a manner which certainly justified, if it did not imperatively call for, the steps which the Porte seemed resolved to adopt, and if we stepped in in any way to shield it from the consequences of those acts, the Sultan's Government would be entitled to call upon us to undertake that Greece should henceforward fulfil those international duties which she has so long neglected.

I was not prepared to assume, on account of Her Majesty's Government, the moral responsibility which I considered inseparable from any step partaking of the nature of a pressure exerted to prevent the Sultan's Government from acting in the manner which they believed called for by their own interests.

I added, however, that being fully alive to the serious nature of such a step as the expulsion of the Greek subjects, I was on the point of going to the Porte with the view of recommending them to make it known at Athens that if, within the fortnight's delay that it was proposed to afford them, the Greek Government entered into satisfactory engagements with respect to the volunteers and to the protection of the refugees desirous of returning to Crete, the Sultan's Government would then abstain from putting the order into execution.

It seemed a matter for consideration, and which I proposed to discuss with the Grand Vizier whether it would be more desirable to adopt the above suggestion, or, instead of it, to begin by sending to Athens an ultimatum, the rejection of which would be followed by the rupture of relations.

Upon being received by Aali Pasha, I found that he had just been having a conversation with the French Ambassador, who had also come to him to speak in favour of delay in carrying out the resolution of the Council.

His Highness, in deference to the suggestion of M. Bourée who read him a despatch he had just received from the Marquis de Moustier, had consented, in the first instance, to address himself to the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers of Greece, requesting them to inform their Governments that if by this day week, Saturday the 12th, the Greek Government shall not have undertaken to put a stop to the assemblage of the volunteer bands, to protect the Cretans anxious to return home, to hinder armed vessels from leaving their ports as blockade-runners, and generally to fulfil their international duties, the Sultan's Government was irrevocably resolved to break off relations with Greece and to expel the Greeks.

The Grand Vizier had yielded so far, he said, out of deference to the friendly powers, but he hoped he might expect that if the delay were not attended with the wished-for result, no further attempt would be made to interfere with the course which the Porte proposed to follow.

Although I regretted that the Grand Vizier had not adopted what appeared to me the far preferable course of sending an ultimatum directly to Athens, rather than this appeal to the three Powers, I at once expressed my readiness to telegraph to your Lordship immediately on my return home, the communication which had been agreed upon with the French Ambassador.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 15.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 5, 1868.

KNOWING that it had been insinuated that I had advised the Porte to adopt energetic measures towards Greece, and that there was an attempt to throw upon me the responsibility of the resolution that has been come to, I took the opportunity of my conversation with General Ignatieff this morning to remark that it was entirely incorrect.

For the last fortnight or three weeks the accounts from Greece had shown that the Government there were daily adopting a line of more open aggression, and were trying to outdo their predecessors by the unconcealed assistance they were giving to the Cretan insurrection.

It was evident, as your Lordship must have gathered from Mr. Erskine's correspondence, that the Greek Government had been persuaded by ill-judging sympathisers that they might safely carry out this policy without risk of its being resented by the Porte.

I had ascertained the temper of the Sultan's Government, and I knew their patience to be nearly exhausted, and when I saw the course that was entered upon at Athens, I expressed to my colleagues, to the Greek Minister, as well as to the Russian Ambassador, the conviction that, if persisted in, it must inevitably end in a rupture.

It was not to be expected that the Porte, which conceives the pacification of Crete to be within sight, should, without resenting it, allow that result to be endangered by the action of a neighbouring Government; but, in the decision that was come to, the Sultan's Government neither consulted me nor any of my colleagues.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 16.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 6, 1868.

THE fear of provoking a collision which has hitherto restrained the Turkish Government from taking effective measures for putting a stop to the running of the Cretan blockade, has at length given way before the accounts which have been received of the preparations for the conveyance of a large corps of Hellenic volunteers to Crete in steamers "Enosis," "Panhellenion," and "Crete," the last-named being the vessel which the Minister of Finance of the Administration of M. Koumoundouros lately boasted of in the Chambers as having been purchased by the Government.

Admiral Hobart has consequently been dispatched to Crete with a sufficient force, as is believed, to render the future operations of these vessels highly hazardous to them.

Learning that he was about to start, I last night made a point of seeing him for the purpose of impressing upon him how much depended upon the prudence of his conduct in avoiding every act not strictly justified by international law; and I believe he is duly impressed with the responsibility that will rest upon him in this respect.

In dealing with simple unarmed blockade-runners Admiral Hobart conceives himself only authorized to capture them when endeavouring to elude the cruisers; but armed vessels, not provided with papers, he believes to be liable to be treated as pirates according to the recognized law of nations.

He is an energetic officer, and appears determined that the blockade-running shall not continue with its former impunity so long as he is entrusted with the naval command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 17.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 7, 1868.

AT a Council of Ministers, held yesterday in the presence of the Sultan, it was resolved to send by telegraph to Athens an ultimatum.

It demands—

1. The dispersion of the bands of volunteers, and the prohibition to form new ones.
2. The disarming of the blockade runners "Enosis," "Panhellenion," and "Crete," or at least the closing of Greek ports against them.
3. That the Cretan emigrants desirous of returning to their island should receive efficient aid and protection.
4. That those persons who were guilty of aggression against Turkish subjects should be punished according to law, and that indemnity to the families of the victims should be granted.
5. That Greece should engage to adopt a line of conduct more consonant with Treaties and the law of nations.

The delay granted for the acceptance of these demands is five days: if within that term the ultimatum is not accepted, the Ottoman Minister is to leave Athens with the whole of his Legation, and all Turkish Consuls in Greece are to be recalled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 18.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 7, 1868.

M. DELYANNI, the Greek Minister, called upon me this afternoon, and spoke of the position into which the relations of his Government and that of Turkey had fallen, exhibiting the utmost surprise at the resolution come to by the Porte, which he said he found it impossible to account for otherwise than by the supposition that for some reason or other they had made up their mind to force on a rupture.

He could not conceive as really serious the pretext which was now alleged with respect to the enrolment of Petropoulaki's band, for the same thing had been done with much much more ostentation without provoking a rupture two years ago, when the volunteers were escorted by music and every kind of public manifestation.

I remarked that this was a singular line of defence, and was certainly a poor encouragement for the forbearance then exhibited by the Turkish Government; but it was precisely the accumulation of aggressive acts on the part of the Greeks which had at length led to the present crisis.

I told him that it now lay entirely with his Government to avoid the rupture, for the Turkish Government had put forward demands which could not be characterized as excessive, the rejection of which by Greece would be followed by that regrettable result.

M. Delyanni said, that if the Porte had taken the matter up differently, the question might easily have been arranged, for his Government would not have refused to protect the Cretan refugees, and would probably have made no difficulty in declaring that foolish demonstrations in the streets of Athens, such as had been made by Petropoulaki's followers, would not be permitted to occur again.

I remarked, that if the Greek Government had answered in this sense the repeated protestations and representations of the Turkish Minister, the necessity for having recourse to more stringent measures would never have arisen.

They had, however, on the contrary, persistently refused him either satisfaction for the outrages that had occurred or assurances against the repetition of them for the future, and, remonstrances having failed of effect, the Greek Government could not fairly complain of a different course of proceeding having at last been adopted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 19.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 8, 1868.

IT having been asserted that the Porte had taken measures for reinforcing their troops in their frontier provinces, I made inquiry this evening into the truth of it, and am assured that the report is altogether untrue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 20.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 8, 1868.

IN the telegraphic instruction sent to Photiades Bey, the recall of the Consuls was to be simultaneous with that of the Ministers; but as it seemed desirable that in order to leave time for an accommodation, the rupture should be carried out as gradually as possible,

I have strongly recommended that the same delay should be allowed to the Consuls as to the Greek subjects who will be directed to leave the country.

There will, I believe, be no difficulty in the part of the Turkish Government in agreeing to this.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 21.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 8, 1868.

WHEN the Grand Vizier spoke to me of the demands to be made upon the Greek Government, I begged him not to lose sight of the fact that, under a free Government like that of Greece, many things could be done of which the Porte might have a right to complain, but which the constitution of the country made it impossible for the Hellenic Government to prevent.

For instance, if it were proposed to require that the blockade-runners shall be entirely stopped, the Greeks could not assent to it. While the Greek Government allowed armed private vessels to leave their ports without papers, carrying volunteers with arms, ammunition, and provisions for Crete, with the avowed intention of resisting the Turkish blockading squadron, they put themselves so far in the wrong that they might fairly be called upon no longer to permit such an abuse of their ports; but this was a very different thing from requiring their interference with respect to unarmed blockade-runners.

Your Lordship will perceive that the demands made with respect to these vessels is limited to such as are armed.

With regard, also to the enlistment of volunteers, it appeared essential to recognize the difference between the open embodiment of corps, as was done by Petropoulaki, and the departure of individuals to take part in a struggle in which the whole nation feels an interest.

In this matter, also, the Porte have limited their demands to the case of the enrolment of bands.

An efficient protection for the Sultan's subjects desirous of returning to Crete, and the punishment of those who have been guilty of the outrages upon them appeared to be demands which the Porte was so clearly entitled to make upon a neighbouring Government, that I did not feel called upon to make any observations with regard to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 22.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 9, 1868.

ON the receipt of Mr. Elliot's telegram of the 5th instant, stating that the Porte would break off diplomatic relations with Greece, and expel all Hellenic subjects from Turkey, unless, before the 12th instant, the Hellenic Government pledged themselves to prevent the departure of Petropoulaki, to prohibit the employment of armed blockade-runners, and to take effectual measures for the protection of the Cretan refugees who desired to return to their country, I called on the French Minister and the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, and ascertained that they, also, had received communications of a similar purport from their respective Embassies at Constantinople.

Baron Baude agreed with me that we should wait upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs and communicate to him unofficially the substance of the intelligence which had reached us; and Prince Gagarine, although he did not acquaint me with the exact tenor of the despatch he had received from General Ignatieff, appeared to be disposed to follow the same course; and he informs Baron Baude that he should advise the Greek Government to reply in a conciliatory tone to any communication which might be made to them by the Porte.

On the 7th instant I accordingly called upon M. Delyanni and said that although I had

just heard from your Lordship that Her Majesty's Government had resigned office, and consequently that for some days to come I could not expect to receive any instructions, the foreign policy of Her Majesty's Government had been so generally and cordially sanctioned by public opinion, that I could not doubt that any future Cabinet which might be formed would pursue a course very similar to that which had been followed by your Lordship. I trusted, therefore, that in any decision which might be come to on this important question, the Greek Government would not be influenced by the expectation that a change of Government in England would be followed by any material change in the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the aggressive attitude of this country towards Turkey.

I then communicated to M. Delyanni the substance of Mr. Elliot's telegram and did my utmost to persuade him to give the assurances required by the Porte; but I regret to say that none of my arguments appeared to produce the least impression upon his mind.

He entered into a long retrospective statement to show that there had been no such change in the recent policy of the Greek Government towards Turkey as would justify the Porte in proceeding to extremities. He denied that the Government had in any way countenanced the expedition of Petropoulaki, and upon my enumerating the different acts which, in my opinion, established connivance on the part of the Greek Government at the departure and equipment of this expedition, he emphatically denied that such was the case, and challenged the Porte to prove the assertions which had been made by Photiades Bey in the notes which he had recently addressed to the Hellenic Government. With respect to the protection to be accorded to the refugees, he stated that the Hellenic Government had all along performed their duty on this head, but he could not admit that they were bound to go out of their way to assist the Porte in persuading its revolted subjects to return to Crete.

In short, I gathered from M. Delyanni's language that the Government had made up their minds to reject the demands of the Porte in the shape in which they were submitted to the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers at Constantinople, but that they would defer making any formal statement upon the subject until they were in the receipt of the ultimatum which he assumed would be addressed to them by the Porte, and until the three Guaranteeing Powers should have made known the course they intend to pursue in this emergency.

I have endeavoured likewise to persuade M. Bulgaris to put a stop to the departure of Petropoulaki's band, and otherwise to acquiesce in the reasonable demands of the Turkish Government, but I left him with the full conviction that the Hellenic Government are quite determined to let things take their course.

I must add that the public appear to be unanimous in wishing for a rupture; nothing is now heard but declarations of hatred towards the Turks, and of eagerness to be led against the common enemy of Hellenism.

No. 23.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 10, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of an official note which has been addressed to me by M. Delyanni, upon the subject of the threatened rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey. I likewise inclose a copy of an identic note, in reply to this communication, which I have addressed to M. Delyanni in common with my French and Russian colleagues.

With reference to M. Delyanni's statement that neither the "Arkadi" nor the "Enosis" were allowed to leave a Greek port armed ("armés en guerre"), I may remind your Lordship that the former of these vessels was notoriously armed with several small guns, and I presume that she was so armed at the time of her capture by the Turkish cruizers: whilst Mr. Consul Lloyd, in writing to me on the 6th instant, states, "The 'Enosis' is being fitted for the two Armstrong guns brought here by the 'Aphroessa,'" which, as I have already mentioned to your Lordship, is a small gun-boat belonging to the Greek Government.

Photiades Bey has already received by telegraph the draft of an ultimatum which he is to address to the Greek Government before breaking off relations; and I believe that this paper will be sent in to-morrow, the 11th instant, and that five days after its delivery he will quit Athens with the whole of his Legation, removing also, at the same time, all the Consular Agents of Turkey throughout Greece.

A very offensive note has already been addressed to Photiades Bey by M. Delyanni,

in reply to the several notes in which he had recapitulated the demands of the Turkish Government; the ultimatum is to be sent in to-morrow.

I herewith inclose a translation of the speech delivered yesterday by M. Delyanni in the Chamber of Deputies, upon the subject of the impending rupture.

One of the steamers chartered by the Porte at Marseilles will leave the Piræus for Canea this evening, with about 240 refugees on board. This, I imagine, will be the last batch of refugees which will be dispatched by the Ottoman Legation. The whole number who have so returned is about 5,000.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Erskine.

Athènes, le 27 Novembre, 1868.
9 Décembre,

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'informer MM les Représentants de la Grande Bretagne, de France, et de Russie, qui l'ont entretenu Lundi dernier, par délégation de leurs Excellences les Ambassadeurs des mêmes Puissances à Constantinople, du conflit qui est sur le point d'éclater entre la Grèce et la Turquie, qu'il a porté à la connaissance de Sa Majesté et à celle de ses collègues au Cabinet, les quatre points mis en avant par la Sublime Porte, et sur lesquels on désire que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté donne une réponse satisfaisante.

Ces quatre points sont—

1. Dissolution par le Gouvernement Hellénique du corps de Petropoulaki.
2. Défense aux bâtiments Grecs armés de faire des voyages en Crète.
3. Protection des familles qui veulent rentrer en Crète.
4. Respect des droits de la Porte et des Traités.

Le Soussigné n'a aucune difficulté de répondre au désir de leurs Excellences les Ambassadeurs, en donnant les informations suivantes aussi brièvement que possible.

Le Gouvernement du Roi ne saurait dissoudre le corps de Petropoulaki ou tout autre corps de citoyens allant en volontaires à leurs risques et périls guerroyer à l'étranger, où bon leur semble, la Constitution de l'Etat ne lui permettant pas de gêner à cet égard la liberté des citoyens Hellènes, et le droit des gens ne l'y forçant point; seulement le Gouvernement Royal n'a point permis que des officiers, sous-officiers, et soldats en activité de service se réunissent à ces bandes. En dernier lieu, vis-à-vis de ce même Chef de Volontaires, Petropoulaki, le Gouvernement a pris des mesures sévères en faisant poursuivre et ramener de force à leurs rangs des soldats de la ligne qui avaient déserté pour le suivre. Le Soussigné fait observer, au reste, que depuis trois ans environ que dure l'insurrection de Candie, plusieurs centaines de volontaires sont allés en Candie, et s'en sont retournés pour la plupart, sans que ce fait ait été considéré comme une preuve de mauvais vouloir de la part du Gouvernement Royal et comme une violation du droit des gens ou des Traités existants. Le Gouvernement Royal continuera à remplir à cet égard ce que la neutralité qu'il a observé lui impose, en ne permettant pas à des officiers et à des soldats qui sont à son service de faire partie des bandes des dits volontaires.

Le Gouvernement du Roi n'a jamais permis et ne permettra non plus à l'avenir, aussi longtemps que les bons rapports continueront entre lui et celui de la Sublime Porte, à des bâtiments Grecs armés dans ses ports d'aller ravitailler l'insurrection de Crète; mais les institutions du pays ne lui permettent pas, et le droit des gens ne l'oblige point, d'empêcher des navires appartenant à des particuliers ou à des Sociétés de Commerce de faire ce service à leurs risques et périls, et le Soussigné fait remarquer que les informations qui prétendent que, soit "l'Arcadi," soit "l'Enosis," ont été armés en guerre dans les ports du Royaume sont erronées et inexactes.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, suivant en cela les principes libéraux des institutions nationales qui assurent à tout habitant de l'Etat une pleine et entière liberté de locomotion ou autre, a accordé déjà et ne cessera d'accorder sa protection à tout émigré Crétois qui voudrait rentrer en Crète. Le Gouvernement Hellénique n'a aucun intérêt à garder de force ces émigrants sur son sol, où ils ont été transportés par humanité, par les marines des Puissances étrangères. On ne saurait donner une meilleure preuve des bonnes dispositions du Gouvernement Royal à cet égard que sa conduite depuis qu'un certain nombre de ces émigrants, non certes spontanément, mais travaillés de toute manière, ont manifesté le désir de retourner en Candie. Plus de quarante convois sont déjà partis, et le Gouvernement du Roi n'a jamais hésité, malgré la surexcitation du sentiment national en Grèce par suite de cette longue et interminable affaire de Candie, à employer tous les

moyens de police que la loi permet, pour repousser la violence exercée dans deux ou trois circonstances par d'autres Crétois, en vue d'empêcher le départ de leurs compatriotes.

Le Gouvernement est fermement décidé à continuer d'accorder la même protection aux émigrés Crétois qui de leur propre gré et volonté manifesteraient l'intention de quitter le territoire du Royaume.

Quant au quatrième point relatif au respect des droits de la Porte et des Traités, bien que le Soussigné n'en saisisse pas exactement le sens et la portée, il n'hésite pas à déclarer que le respect des droits de chaque Etat et des Traités existants entre deux ou plusieurs Etats est une obligation à laquelle le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique n'a jamais manqué; et pour ce qui est de ses relations avec la Porte, il s'est trouvé lui-même, soit à propos du brigandage qui désole les provinces frontières, soit à propos d'autres nombreux intérêts des sujets Hellènes en Turquie, dans le cas d'invoquer ce respect des droits et des Traités; mais ces différends, comme les autres sujets impliqués dans les trois autres points ci-dessus, n'ont jamais été considérés ni ne sauraient l'être, en toute justice, comme des motifs suffisants d'une rupture des relations entre les deux Etats voisins, rupture injustifiable, et dont la responsabilité et les graves conséquences doivent retomber sur celui qui la provoque.

(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Mr. Erskine to M. Delyanni.

Athens, December 10, 1868.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Greece, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a note addressed to him on the 9th instant by M. Delyanni, Minister of Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, upon the subject of the unofficial and confidential communication which he made to him on Monday last.

The Undersigned has not failed to forward a copy of that document to Her Majesty's Government, and he avails, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 23.

M. Delyanni's Speech in Chamber of Deputies, December 9, 1868.

Messieurs, vous savez que le Gouvernement s'expose à la critique, si pendant que des négociations se poursuivent sur de graves sujets, il ne porte pas à la connaissance de ce corps, ou ne lui donne pas communication des faits. Souvent ces communications deviennent dangereuses aux intérêts généraux. Cependant devant l'inquiétude générale qui paraît exister, depuis qu'à dater de quelques jours le bruit s'est répandu que la rupture des relations diplomatiques entre le Gouvernement Hellénique et le Gouvernement Ottoman était imminente, le Ministère cédant devant cette inquiétude, a décidé d'en dire quelque chose, dès à présent, à la Chambre.

MM. les Deputés, pendant la longue durée de la lutte Crétoise, les secours et les divers encouragements qui étaient donnés d'autre part à cette île héroïque ont cessé graduellement, et maintenant l'assistance nécessaire n'est fournie que du côté du seul territoire Grec. Ceci, Messieurs, a refroidi les relations du Gouvernement Hellénique et du Gouvernement Ottoman, et au fur et à mesure que la lutte se prolongeait, la froideur des relations s'en augmentait proportionnellement. Finalement, ces relations se sont refroidies maintenant à tel point qu'il semble que la Sublime Porte a décidé de procéder à une rupture absolue des relations existantes qui jusqu'ici avaient ce caractère de froideur.

J'aurais dit, Messieurs, que le moment était arrivé pour le Ministère de mettre à jour tous les faits et de déposer toutes les pièces relatives à cette grave question, n'était la circonstance que voici: les Ministres des grandes Puissances à Constantinople, aussitôt qu'ils eurent connaissance des décisions que le Gouvernement Ottoman venait de prendre à ce sujet, intervinrent en s'efforçant de prévenir cet événement si grave par ses conséquences éventuelles. Par suite de cette intervention survint une négociation qui est encore pendante.

Pour cette raison je ne puis dire davantage aujourd'hui. Je pense néanmoins que dans le courant de la semaine prochaine le Ministère sera à même d'informer la Chambre ou que cette intervention a eu pour résultat de prévenir cette mesure si grave et si

importante, ou que la rupture a eu lieu, et conséquemment alors, sans la moindre hésitation, de placer sous vos yeux tous les faits et de déposer ici toutes les pièces.

Plusieurs (des deux côtés).—Très bien !

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Je puis ajouter ceci, que le Ministère dans cette sérieuse conjoncture et dans cette négociation de la plus haute gravité n'a point consenti et ne consentira pas que la moindre atteinte soit portée ni à la dignité de la Couronne, ni à nos libertés constitutionnelles, ni à notre grandeur nationale. (Applaudissements de tous côtés.)

No. 24.

Mr. Bonar to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

(Extract.)

Vienna, December 15, 1868.

HAVING sought an interview with Count Beust this morning, to inquire of his Excellency what fresh information he had received on the subject of the difference between the Turkish and Greek Governments, and the course of events at Athens, his Excellency told me that he was ignorant, from official sources, of how affairs stood.

Baron Testa, at Athens, had been silent for several days, and all that he (his Excellency) knew was, what he was informed was the substance of a despatch received here yesterday by the Greek Envoy, Prince Ypsilanti, saying that the Greek Government had given way on some of the points contained in the Turkish ultimatum, but had refused acquiescence in the rest. Yet his Excellency hoped and believed that the conflict between the two Governments would be amicably settled without creating further complications.

The action of the Austrian Government had been confined to recommending moderation on both sides, and the Austrian Ambassador was to associate himself generally with the English and French Representatives in all counsels of moderation which they might recommend.

His instructions to Baron Testa at Athens had been in the same sense, namely, that the prominent part among the foreign Representatives in this question belonged to the three Protecting Powers, but that he was not to fail to recommend moderation on the part of the Greek Government, and regard for all just demands of the Porte.

No. 25.

M. E. Musurus to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

*Ambassade Impériale Ottomane, Londres,
le 17 Décembre, 1868.*

My Lord,

J'AI l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence qu'il résulte d'une dépêche télégraphique que je reçois à l'instant du Ministère Impérial des Affaires Etrangères, que le Gouvernement Hellénique, ayant répondu par un refus aux cinq propositions de la Sublime Porte, les relations diplomatiques et commerciales viennent d'être rompues entre la Turquie et la Grèce. Photiades Bey a quitté hier Athènes avec toute la Légation Impériale. Le Ministre Hellénique à Constantinople a reçu aussi hier ses passeports.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) ET. MUSURUS.

(Translation.)

*Imperial Ottoman Embassy, London,
December 17, 1868.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to bring to your Excellency's knowledge that it appears from a telegraphic despatch which I have just received from the Imperial Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the Hellenic Government, having replied by a refusal to the five propositions of the Sublime Porte, diplomatic and commercial relations have been broken off between Turkey and Greece. Photiades Bey quitted Athens yesterday with all the Imperial Legation. The Hellenic Minister at Constantinople likewise received yesterday his passports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ET. MUSURUS.

No. 26.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. E. Musurus.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, announcing the withdrawal of the Turkish Minister from Athens, and that the Greek Minister at Constantinople had received his passports.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 27.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 18, 1868.

I HAVE to instruct your Excellency to state to Prince Gortchakoff that Her Majesty's Government consider that the united action of the Three Contracting Powers is of the most urgent importance in order to put an end to the present state of things in Greece; that the conduct of the Greek Government is in violation of international law, and cannot, therefore, be defended; that the terms of the Turkish ultimatum are, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, such as the Porte, under the circumstances, is quite justified in demanding; and that they, therefore, hope that the Russian Government will concur with that of Her Majesty's in recommending the Greek Government to accept the same as a basis of negotiation, with the understanding that such alteration may be made in the form thereof as may, under the circumstances of the moment, appear necessary to the Representatives of the Three Protecting Powers at Athens.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 28.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 18, 1868.

BARON BRUNNOW called upon me this morning to speak of the Turco-Greek question, which he considered to be every day becoming more serious. I said that its importance and duration would depend on the policy of the Protecting Powers—that the Greeks had behaved ill—that the Porte, having a due regard to its own dignity and interest, was justified in demanding that the violation of international law and the duties of good neighbourhood committed by the Greeks should cease, and I had no doubt that the Hellenic Government would recognize their error and give reasonable satisfaction to the Porte, if advice to that effect was offered in a friendly spirit by the Protecting Powers.

Upon Baron Brunnow replying that I was much mistaken if I thought that Russia could join in any pressure upon Greece without its being applied with equal force on Turkey, I inquired whether his Excellency was speaking upon specific instructions or whether his language was only such as he assumed would be in harmony with the opinion of his Government.

His Excellency replied, that as yet he had no specific instructions, but he felt himself authorized to say that his Government considered that the Porte had acted with precipitation, and that on presenting the ultimatum a longer time ought to have been given to Greece for consideration.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government were most anxious to take no step in the matter, and I believed I could say the same with respect to the French Government, except in conjunction with Russia, and there was no wish to bear harshly on Greece, or to leave out of consideration the strong national sympathies which had prompted their late proceedings; but there was a strong wish, I might almost say strong conviction, on the part of England and France, in which I was sure the Government of Russia would join, that this Turco-Greek quarrel should not disturb or even menace the peace of Europe, which it possibly might do if it was not speedily brought to a close.

Baron Brunnow said his Government would no doubt be desirous to act with those of England and France.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

THE Russian Ambassador called upon me this morning as he yesterday announced his intention of doing.

He said that a courier was on the road to him from St. Petersburg, but that, in the meanwhile, he had been informed by the telegraph that the Emperor had declined to take Greek subjects under his protection during the rupture between Turkey and Greece.

I expressed the satisfaction with which I heard this intelligence, as I hoped it would be a sign to the Hellenic Government that their proceedings did not meet the approval of His Imperial Majesty.

Baron Brunnow did not entirely dissent from this, but said that, with reference to public opinion in Russia, it would be impossible for the Emperor to take part against the Greeks.

I answered that it was far from being the wish of Her Majesty's Government, who had no such intention themselves, that the Emperor should take part against the Greeks; but His Imperial Majesty was known to be an eminently just man, and if he would fairly weigh the evidence respecting the acts committed by the Greeks, and the amount of satisfaction demanded by the Porte, I thought there would be no disagreement with Her Majesty's Government as to the advice that should be given both at Constantinople and at Athens.

Baron Brunnow then asked me whether I contemplated the settlement of the question by the Protecting Powers alone, or whether it would not be advisable to refer it to a Conference of all the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris, and whose Representatives should meet either at London or Paris.

I said that to such an inquiry I could only answer in my individual capacity until the opinions of my colleagues had been ascertained; but that, speaking for myself, I had no hesitation in saying that if the three Powers acted cordially together, with a sincere desire to do justice between the contending parties, and a strong conviction that the general peace should not be disturbed, the dispute might at once and with ease be terminated; but that if a Conference were to assemble, the whole of the so-called Eastern question would be opened, a revision of the Treaty of Paris would be attempted, and the probable result of the Conference would be dissension among the Powers rather than the restoration of peace between the belligerents.

Baron Brunnow made no answer to these observations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord A. Loftus.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

COUNT BERNSTORFF has this day read to me a telegram from Count Bismarck, stating that the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers at Constantinople had been asked to take Greek subjects under their protection during the rupture between Turkey and Greece, and that the application had been declined by the French Ambassador.

Count Bernstorff further informed me that his Government had heard, with great regret, of the intention of the Porte to expel all Greek subjects from the Turkish territory on very short notice, and that orders to that effect had been received at Belgrade and Bucharest, where their execution was highly improbable; and that therefore the Suzerain Power would find its authority defied.

I said, that Her Majesty's Government, while fully recognizing the right of the Sultan as an independent Sovereign to obtain redress for the wrongs he was suffering at the hands of the Greeks, yet would lament that measures of undue severity, and to all appearance, not yet called for by necessity, should be resorted to; and their opinion on the matter had been communicated to the Turkish Government.

Count Bernstorff has lately, and on more than one occasion, expressed to me the hope of his Government that the quarrel between Turkey and Greece might be put an end to by the Protecting Powers, but he has now made a formal proposal to me, by the desire of his Government, that the Turco-Greek question should be referred to a Conference of the Great Powers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 31.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to the Russian Ambassador upon the subject of the threatened rupture of relations between Turkey and Greece, and the course you pursued in the matter, as reported in your despatch of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 32.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

THE Turkish Chargé d'Affaires called at this office to-day, and I expressed to him the regret felt by Her Majesty's Government at learning that the Porte persisted in its determination to expel all Greek subjects from the Turkish territory on a given day and at very short notice. Such a measure, I said, would be productive of great hardship, particularly in the depth of winter; that in many places it was sure to be resisted, and that blood might be shed and cruelties committed, for which the Porte would be held responsible in the eyes of Europe. At this moment I added the tendency of opinion seemed to be favourable to the Porte, which had borne great provocation with patience, and had not resorted to measures of coercion until they were called for and justified by the dignity and the interests of Turkey; but the tide would soon turn, and the Porte would lose the advantage of having opinion in its favour if it pursued a course of conduct that would be characterized as unnecessary and cruel, and not in accordance with the spirit of the times or the usages of civilized nations. M. Musurus, in a tone of great propriety, defended the measure as the only one calculated to bring the Greeks to reason, and to preserve the Porte from the machinations of the Greek subjects to stir up revolt throughout the Turkish provinces, if they were permitted to reside there during the contest that had already commenced between the two countries.

I remarked that, at all events, the necessity for such a measure had not been proved, and that it was consequently premature; and that as nothing would be gained by undue haste, and much might be lost by a departure from the moderation hitherto exhibited by the Sultan's Government, I earnestly hoped that the measure in question would be suspended, and time thereby given for such efforts as could be made by friendly Powers for the re-establishment of relations between Turkey and Greece. M. Musurus assured me that he had duly transmitted to his Government the remarks of a similar character that I had addressed to him a few days ago, and that he should not fail immediately to communicate the opinions I had then expressed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 33.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to M. Delyanni, as reported in your despatch of the 7th instant, upon the subject of the relations between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 34.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the advice which you gave the Porte, as reported in your despatch of the 8th instant, in regard to extending the time for the withdrawal of the Greek Consuls from the Turkish Dominions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 35.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to the Grand Vizier, as reported in your despatch of the 8th instant, in regard to the demands to be made upon the Greek Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 36.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 20.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 11, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of a letter from Hobart Pasha, commanding the Ottoman squadron in Crete, inclosing a notification to all persons attempting to break the blockade of that island, stating that summary measures will be adopted against any vessel which shall fire at a blockading cruiser.

A copy of this document has been forwarded to Her Majesty's Consul at Syra for the information of any British subjects whom it may concern.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

"Hudavendikiar," Suda Bay, December 9, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to request that your Excellency will be good enough to inform the Consuls and subjects of the nation you represent of the contents of circular herewith forwarded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS HOBART.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

*Notification.**"Hudavendikiar." Bay of Suda, December 9, 1868.*

HAVING been appointed by His Majesty the Sultan and the Government of the Imperial Ottoman Empire to command the squadron employed in the Cretan waters for the prevention of intercourse between the insurgents in the Island of Candia and their sympathizers in foreign countries, I wish it to be publicly known to all persons who have been and who may still be projecting to pass the Turkish blockade without permission, that while by the law of nations a vessel breaking a proclaimed blockade is liable, if captured, to confiscation, I consider that any vessel who fires at a blockading cruiser while in the

execution of her duty commits an act of piracy, and that I shall deal summarily and as severely as the law will admit with all persons found on board any vessel or vessels so acting.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS HOBART, *Vice-Admiral Commanding.*

No. 37.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 20.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 12, 1868.

AT about 4 P.M. yesterday Photiades Bey called upon M. Delyanni, and placed in his hands the ultimatum of the Turkish Government, a copy of which has already been forwarded to your Lordship by her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople. After reading this paper, M. Delyanni replied that he saw no great difficulty in coming to an understanding with the Porte as to the last two points, but that he feared it would be impossible to agree to the first three. He, however, added that he would consult his colleagues upon the subject, and ascertain the intentions of the King, and the result would be communicated to Photiades Bey some time between this and Wednesday next the 16th instant.

Should the Hellenic Government reject the demands contained in this ultimatum, M. Photiades will probably embark on board the steamer of the *Messagéries Impériales* on the 17th instant, with the whole of his Legation, and he will be followed by all the Ottoman Consular Agents in Greece.

M. Delyanni is understood to be in active telegraphic communication with Vienna, St. Petersburg, Paris, and London, and he appears not to have lost all hope that a rupture may be prevented by the mediation of the Guaranteeing Powers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 38.

Safvet Pasha to M. E. Musurus.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by M. E. Musurus, December 21.)

(Extrait.)

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 20 Décembre, 1868.

SI la Sublime Porte se trouvait dans une position identique à celle des autres Etats par rapport à la juridiction sur les sujets étrangers, elle n'aurait pas pris la mesure de l'expulsion des sujets Hellènes. Les étrangers se trouvent ici dans une position exceptionnelle, grâce aux Capitulations concédées; les Hellènes présentent dans les circonstances actuelles un élément de trouble chez nous. Je dois vous informer du reste que la Sublime Porte a décidé d'excepter les familles, les nourrices, les cuisinières, les servantes, et d'autres femmes Hellènes s'occupant d'un métier quelconque, ainsi que ceux des Hellènes qui acceptent la sujétion Ottomane. Nous avons pris aussi certaines mesures à l'égard des navires sous pavillon Hellénique qui n'auraient pas appris à temps l'interdiction de leur entrée en Turquie.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, December 20, 1868.

IF the Sublime Porte had found itself in a position identic with that of other States in regard to jurisdiction over foreign subjects, it would not have taken the measure of expelling Hellenic subjects. Strangers find themselves here in an exceptional position in consequence of the Capitulations conceded. The Hellenes present, under existing circumstances, an element of disturbance among us. I must inform you, moreover, that the Sublime Porte has decided to except families, nurses, cooks, servants, and other Hellenic women engaged in any occupation, as well as those men who accept Ottoman rule. We have also taken certain measures with respect to those vessels under Hellenic colours which shall not have learnt in time the prohibition against their admission into Turkey.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 21.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, December 16, 1868.

I CALLED upon Prince Gortchakoff this morning, and had some conversation with his Excellency upon the present critical state of the relations of Greece and Turkey. I said that your Lordship had not entered on your official duties when the last messenger left, but Lord Stanley, before quitting the Foreign Office, had instructed Mr. Erskine to warn the Greek Government against the danger of wantonly provoking a conflict with the Porte in which they could not hope for support from any other Power, and his Excellency answered that he hoped Her Majesty's Government had also used their influence at Constantinople to induce the Turkish Government to abstain from pressing inadmissible demands on the Government of Greece. He then read to me a letter which he addressed to General Ignatieff on the subject a few days ago, and some extracts from another, transmitting a copy of it to Baron Brunnov, which he said would reach London to-morrow, and in which he instructs them to impress upon your Lordship's attention the difficulties in which the King of Greece is placed by the Greek Constitution, and to induce you to urge upon the Porte the necessity of limiting its demands to such measures of redress as the King can grant without endangering his Throne, by violating the articles of the Constitution, which entitle Greeks to engage in the service of other countries, and vessels like the "Enosis" to sail from the ports of the kingdom.

No. 40.

Lord A. Loftus to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 21.)

My Lord,

Berlin, December 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, in consequence of a telegraphic instruction from his Government, Aristarchi Bey, the Turkish Minister at this Court, has formally announced to Count Bismarck the rupture of diplomatic and commercial relations between Turkey and Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

No. 41.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 21.)

(Extract.)

Paris, December 20, 1868.

I SAW the Marquis de Lavalette this afternoon for the first time since his appointment as Minister for Foreign Affairs. After expressing in strong terms his desire to act in the most perfect concert with Her Majesty's Government, he proceeded to speak of the critical state of the relations between Turkey and Greece.

He told me that the Prussian Chargé d'Affaires, Count Solms-Sonnenwalde, had come to him by order of Count Bismarck, to propose to him, on the part of the Prussian Government, that a Conference of the Powers who had signed the Treaty of Paris should be held at this place, to devise measures for settling the differences between Turkey and Greece, and averting the danger of their leading to a serious disturbance of the tranquillity of Europe.

M. de Lavalette had, he said, told Count Solms, that he must take the orders of the Emperor before giving an answer to this proposal. Speaking, however, for himself, he had no hesitation in declaring to Count Solms that in principle he was entirely in favour of referring all international disputes to the decision of the general voice of Europe. This was the system laid down by the Congress of Paris, and he was anxious that it should be acted upon as much as possible. There were, however, in the present case practical matters which required to be attended to at once. Some time must elapse before a Conference could be assembled, and meanwhile the Porte would justly require some guarantee that the aid given by Greece to the Cretan insurrection should be put a stop to. All, therefore, that he could say for the moment to Count Solms was, that he was disposed to look with favour upon the principle on which the Prussian proposal was founded.

M. de Lavalette proceeded to tell me that soon after Count Solms had left him, he

had received a visit from the Russian Ambassador, Count de Stackelberg, who had urged that measures should be taken at once by the Powers of Europe to prevent matters coming to extremity, and in particular to avert the threatened expulsion of the Hellenes from the Ottoman Empire. M. de Stackelberg had suggested that the mediation of the six Powers should be offered to Turkey and Greece, and had seemed to think that it resulted from a recent communication from Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg that Her Majesty's Government were in favour of a measure of the kind.

I said that Her Majesty's Government certainly thought it very important that England, France, and Russia should act together, and that your Lordship had accordingly sent a telegram to that effect to St. Petersburg, and had urged that Russia should unite with England and France in recommending the Turkish ultimatum as a basis of negotiation to Greece, without insisting upon an actual compliance with the exact terms of it. Your Lordship had not, however, contemplated a reference to any other Powers than the three by whom Greece was guaranteed, and who were therefore in some measure responsible for her conduct. It was plain that it was of the greatest consequence that Russia should not separate herself from France and England. If she did so, she might take a line of her own, which would lead to much inconvenience, and possibly to a serious misunderstanding between her and the other two Powers. Your Lordship was, however, of opinion that there were serious objections to a Conference of the Powers. If England, France, and Russia acted sincerely together, and made the Greeks feel that they would get no support in resisting the just demands of the Porte, the whole matter would speedily be brought to an end, to the great advantage of Greece as well as of Turkey. In fact, I said, it would be easy to settle the whole question in this way, before a Conference could well be assembled. There appeared to be very little hope of any practical good to be set against the manifest danger that a Conference might re-open the whole Eastern Question, and thus be more likely to lead to dissension between the great Powers than to concord between Turkey and Greece.

The principal arguments used by M. de Lavalette in favour of a Conference were, that it would render a suspension of active measures compatible with the dignity of the Porte, which would yield only to the counsels of all the Great Powers; that it would render it easy to prevent all communications between Greece and Crete during the negotiations; that the dangers of its re-opening the whole Eastern question might be avoided by strictly limiting its action beforehand, and by a perfect understanding between England and France; that, in fact, not only the dignity of the Porte but the *amour-propre* of other Powers concerned would be best consulted by allowing the settlement to be made by the united voice of Europe.

I begged M. de Lavalette not to fail to bring distinctly to the notice of the Emperor your Lordship's objections to a Conference, and this he promised to do. He said, moreover, that he would make me acquainted as soon as possible with the Emperor's views.

He considered it to be of great importance that the Porte should, if possible, be prevented from actually expelling the Hellenes from the Empire.

He thought the order which had been sent to Servia and Roumania to expel the Hellenes extremely unwise. It was, in his opinion, doubtful whether the Porte had the right to give such an order, while it was almost certain that it would not be obeyed.

No. 42.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1868.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 20th instant, reporting your communications with the Marquis de Lavalette on the question of assembling a Conference for the purpose of adjusting the differences between Turkey and Greece; and I approve of the language which your Excellency has held on this subject as reported in your despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 22.)

(Extract.)

Paris, December 21, 1868.

THE Marquis de Lavalette told me this afternoon that the Emperor was decidedly in favour of acceding to the Prussian proposal that a Conference of the Powers should be held at Paris in order to effect a reconciliation between Turkey and Greece. He had, he said, made known to the Emperor the objections which I had stated, and His Majesty had given them careful consideration, but had nevertheless come to the conclusion that they were outweighed by the advantages which a Conference might be expected to produce.

M. de Lavalette went on to say that he had spoken on the subject to Prince Metternich, the Austrian Ambassador, who, though without instructions, declared himself to be favourable to the idea of a Conference. The Chevalier Nigra, the Italian Minister, had expressed himself to the same effect. Djemil Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador, had been very careful not to commit himself, but had made no objection. In fact, it was England only which seemed to hesitate.

M. de Lavalette then told me that he had sent telegrams to Constantinople and to Athens, urging delay, in order that he might have time to make himself acquainted with the question, and bring to an issue communications ("pourparlers") in which he was engaged with the Great Powers of Europe. To Constantinople he had said that, while admitting the provocation the Porte had received, he doubted whether the measures contemplated by it, were prudent or opportune, that he found this doubt to be shared more or less by most of the Representatives of foreign Powers here; that he appealed to Aali Pasha's confidence in the friendship of France, and even to his Highness' personal friendship for him, and conjured him to allow the expulsion of the Hellenes and the closing of the ports to remain for the present simply as threats ("dans l'état comminatoire"). To Athens he had said that while he found that many of the Representatives of foreign Powers here thought Greece entirely in the wrong, he did not find one who thought her to be entirely in the right; that he urged her to do nothing whatever to aggravate the evils of the actual state of affairs. He had added that he approved of the steps taken by Baron Baude, the French Minister at Athens, with respect to the proceedings of Hobart Pasha concerning the blockade-runner "Enosis."

M. de Lavalette proceeded to state at length, and with considerable eloquence, the arguments in favour of assembling a Conference.

It might, indeed, be suggested that it would be more natural that the three Protecting Powers of Greece should alone take part in the settlement of such a question. In resorting to such a proceeding, those Powers would place themselves naturally enough in the position of protectors of Greece; but in what position would they stand towards Turkey? and if they declared Greece to be in the wrong, and forced her to give redress, how would they be playing the part of protectors?

M. de Lavalette thought that very great weight, in considering this question, should be allowed to the remarkable changes which had taken place since the independence of Greece had been established forty years ago. Turkey had become, politically, socially, and financially, a member of the Great European Society of Nations. Her integrity was guaranteed by the six principal Powers. If the arrangements respecting Greece were now to be made, no doubt Austria, Italy, and Prussia would be parties to them. Was there any good reason for excluding them from a Conference to be held now on the affairs of Turkey and Greece? Austria was directly interested in Turkey, as a neighbour, and the Porte could have no doubt that the rights of the Sultan would receive due consideration from her. Whether the fact was liked or disliked, it could not be denied that Prussia held now a position in Europe very different from that which she had occupied forty years ago, and her claim to take part in the settlement of any European question could not be gainsaid; Italy might be expected to agree in the main with France and England on this question. Her geographical position, and her active commercial intercourse both with Greece and Turkey, gave here, moreover, a very direct concern in the present quarrel between those two countries.

I said that as to the general proposition that Austria, Italy, and Prussia were entitled to a voice in the settlement of great European questions, I conceived there were not two opinions. Certainly England had, less than any country, ever manifested a disposition to exclude any one of them. This was not, however, the present question. Her Majesty's Government had not thought it necessary or desirable that a solemn assize of all Europe should be held on this difference between Turkey and Greece. It was not to be denied

that a general Conference was fraught with much risk and with many inconveniences. The case had appeared to Her Majesty's Government to be so simple that it might be settled in a few days. It could not be doubted that in the main the Greeks were in the wrong, and Her Majesty's Government conceived that if the three Powers, on whose protection Greece relied, simply told her that she must not expect any support from them in transgressing her international duties, she would at once yield, and the question would be at an end.

M. de Lavalette replied that this might be so, if the three Powers were unanimous. But could Russia be brought to unite with France and England in making such an announcement to Greece? He confessed that he thought the only way out of the difficulty was to assemble a Conference of the Great Powers. The first effect of this would be to put an immediate stop to the present lamentable state of things. He felt confident that Turkey would in such a case readily suspend the execution of the two measures she had threatened—the expulsion of the Hellenic subjects, and the closing of her ports to Greek ships. M. de Lavalette dwelt for some time upon the disastrous consequences to Turkey herself, and upon the injury to Great European interests, which the execution of those threats would entail. He then went on to say that Greece, on her part, would abstain from all interference in Crete. The questions open to discussion in the Conference might be strictly defined beforehand; and there could be no fear, if England and France were in perfect accord, that the limits laid down would be transgressed. For instance, he should lay down as assential that no proposal to cede Crete to Greece should be brought forward.

M. de Lavalette said that he was not sufficiently well acquainted with what had passed already to be able to enter into details. He had, of course, not had time to read up the papers, and his predecessor, the Marquis de Moustier, was too ill to be spoken to. There were, however, considerations of a higher order than any he had yet mentioned, which had great influence with him. He was convinced that the mere assembling of a Conference of the Powers, to consult in common on any measure for securing tranquillity, would have the best possible effect. Nothing would, in his opinion, contribute so much to the maintenance of peace; nothing, he was certain, would do so much towards re-establishing in France the confidence in peace which had been so much shaken. There were, perhaps, very few questions upon which there would be a sufficient accord among the Powers to render such a Conference possible. It would, he thought, be a most grave error to lose the present opportunity; a Conference *ad hoc*, strictly limited to the matter in hand, seemed perfectly safe. It was as a man, responsible to God and his country, who deprecated above all things a war which would lead to frightful slaughter, that he so earnestly sought to obtain the assent of Her Majesty's Government to a measure which he conscientiously believed to be more than any other calculated to secure to Europe the blessings of peace and tranquillity.

In conclusion, M. de Lavalette asked me whether he might say to the Emperor, to whose presence he was going immediately, that I would without delay communicate to your Lordship the views of the French Government on this subject.

I answered that I would make to your Lordship as faithful and full a report as I could, of what he had said to me, and would, if possible, send it off this evening.

No. 44.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord A. Loftus.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1868.

COUNT BERNSTORFF yesterday read to me a telegram from Count Bismarck, stating that Prussia had declined to take Greek subjects under her protection during the rupture between Turkey and Greece; and that his Excellency was still of opinion that that duty would more properly devolve on one of the Protecting Powers; but he understood that the English and French Ambassadors at Constantinople had refused the application that had been made to them.

I said, I could well understand the motives of the Prussian Government for declining this charge, as the Power which undertook to protect the Greek subjects might, to a certain extent, become responsible for their conduct.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 45.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the course you pursued, as reported in your despatch of the 9th instant, in order to prevent the threatened rupture of relations between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 46.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Bloomfield.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 22, 1868.

THE Austrian Ambassador called at this office yesterday, and read to me a telegram of December 10 to the Austrian Minister at Athens, which instructed him to join the Representatives of the Protecting Powers in recommending the Greek Government to satisfy the demands of the Porte, and a telegram of the same date to Baron Prokesch, which informed him of the above telegram, and instructed him to join the Representatives of England and France in conciliatory measures, and also to watch Austrian commercial interests.

Baron Beust trusted that the efforts of the Protecting Powers would prevent war, and he hoped much from the influence of Russia in Greece, which should be exercised in the interests of peace.

No. 47.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 22, 1868.

THE Turkish Chargé d'Affaires called at this Office yesterday and gave me the copy of a telegram which he had received from Constantinople, stating the reasons why the Porte declined to abandon its intention to expel Greek subjects from Turkish territory.

I expressed to M. Musurus my regret that the advice of Her Majesty's Government had been offered in vain, and after repeating the arguments that I had used on previous occasions, I added that there seemed to be but one opinion at the different Courts of Europe as to the impolicy of this rigorous measure, and the injury that in various ways Turkey would thereby inflict upon herself.

No. 48.

Photiades Bey to M. Delyanni.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by M. E. Musurus, December 23.)

Athènes, le 11 Décembre, 1868.

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan ne croit pas devoir chercher à prouver combien est sincère et sérieux son désir d'entretenir des relations d'amitié et de bon voisinage avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique. Le monde entier a vu la longanimité dont la Sublime Porte a fait preuve en face de l'attitude prise à son égard par le Gouvernement Hellénique depuis bientôt trois ans. On connaît l'histoire de la dernière insurrection Crétoise. Il est superflu d'énumérer ici les machinations ourdies publiquement et sous les yeux du Gouvernement Hellénique par les Comités siégeant dans la capitale même du Royaume pour fomenter et entretenir la rebellion en Crète malgré la volonté de l'immense majorité de ses habitants.

L'histoire des nations civilisées ne fournit aucun exemple du mépris avec lequel le droit des gens a été traité par les dits Comités. Ils n'ont épargné ni menace ni mensonge aux pauvres insulaires afin de les obliger à prendre les armes contre leur Souverain légitime. Les bandits pris à leur solde, et envoyés en Crète sous le titre de volontaires, s'y sont livrés à des actes de plus horrible brigandage contre ceux des habitants qui osaient leur résister. C'est donc en menaçant et faisant suivre leurs menaces par une exécution

implacable ou par des promesses trompeuses qu'on est parvenu à décider une partie de ces malheureux habitants à émigrer en Grèce, où ils n'ont trouvé que misère et souffrance. Detrompés, pressés par la misère, et voyant la parfaite sécurité qui règne dans leur patrie, ces malheureux émigrés ont demandé et demandent à hauts cris leur repatriement. C'est en vain qu'ils supplient qu'on les laisse jouir de leur libre arbitre ; c'est en vain que la Sublime Porte fait, depuis plus de trois ans, des démarches pressantes auprès du Gouvernement Hellénique dans le but d'obtenir leur liberté. La majeure partie en reste encore exposé à toutes sortes de vexations et de misères, et le petit nombre qui a pu retourner n'a pu effectuer son départ qu'au prix de son sang.

Le rétablissement de la tranquillité en Crète et l'agonie dans laquelle se débattent les quelques volontaires qui restent encore sur les sommets des montagnes de l'île, ont déterminé les meneurs Hellènes à empêcher à tout prix le retour des émigrés dans leurs foyers et à former de nouvelles bandes de volontaires pour donner le change à l'opinion publique sur l'apaisement entier de l'insurrection.

Ce succinct et fidèle exposé de la situation nous paraît suffisant pour convaincre tout juge impartial qu'il ne s'agit nullement de délivrer un peuple opprimé, mais qu'il s'agit d'opprimer, de torturer toute une population dans l'intérêt de l'ambition d'un Etat voisin. Les documents échangés depuis plus de deux ans témoignent hautement de l'esprit de conciliation dont nous nous sommes montrés animés vis-à-vis du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi Georges et du compte très grand que nous avons tenu de ses difficultés intérieures. Les sacrifices en toute genre que la Sublime Porte s'est imposés afin de ne pas démentir ses sentiments de modération sont connus de tout le monde. Toutes nos démarches auprès du Gouvernement Royal n'ont eu invariablement pour réponse ou qu'une fin de non-recevoir ou que des aveux d'impuissance de comprimer l'élan d'un parti qui veut soumettre tout aux exigences de sa passion. Cet état de choses va s'empirant en Grèce. Les derniers événements ont couronné l'édifice et ont enlevé au Gouvernement Impérial tout espoir d'un prompt retour de la part de la Grèce à des sentiments de justice et au respect du droit des gens.

En effet, quelle espérance aurions-nous pu conserver (1) devant la déclaration du haut de la Tribune d'un des anciens Ministres qu'une partie du dernier emprunt avait été affectée à l'achat du bateau la "Crète," qui sert aujourd'hui au transport des volontaires et des munitions en Crète au mépris de tous les droits internationaux—déclaration qui contredit d'une manière si solennelle les assurances que le Gouvernement du Roi nous avait données ; (2) devant un discours Ministériel qui dénote clairement la résolution de poursuivre l'idée de l'annexion de l'île de Crète à la Grèce ; (3) devant la violence inqualifiable avec laquelle on cherche à empêcher le repatriement spontané et volontaire des émigrés Crétois ; (4) devant la persistance que le Gouvernement Royal met à ne pas réprimer ces violences ; (5) devant la formation d'une nouvelle bande de volontaires qui s'organise non seulement sans la moindre opposition de la part des autorités, mais par leur concours presque avoué ; (6) devant l'impuissance de nos représentations tant de fois réitérées ; (7) devant la tendance ambitieuse de plus en plus accentuée et non déguisée des partis en Grèce ; (8) devant l'impunité que rencontrent auprès des autorités Helléniques les agresseurs des officiers, soldats, ou sujets Ottomans, assassinés ou maltraités sur le territoire du Royaume.

Le Gouvernement Impérial manquerait à ses devoirs les plus sacrés s'il continuait à se bercer d'une illusion qui a valu déjà tant de sacrifices.

En conséquence, dans le cas où, dans le délai de cinq jours à dater d'aujourd'hui, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi ne prendrait pas l'engagement formel :—

1. De disperser immédiatement les bandes de volontaires dernièrement organisées dans différentes parties du Royaume et d'empêcher la formation de nouvelles bandes ;

2. De désarmer les corsaires "Enosis," "Crète," et "Panhellenion," ou en tout cas de leur fermer l'accès des ports Helléniques ;

3. D'accorder aux émigrés Crétois non-seulement l'autorisation de retourner dans leurs foyers, mais encore une aide et une protection efficace ;

4. De punir conformément aux lois ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'agression contre les militaires et les sujets Ottomans et d'accorder aux familles des victimes de ces attentats une juste indemnité ;

5. De suivre désormais une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités existants et au droit des gens ;—

Le Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Sublime Porte, d'ordre de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan son auguste Souverain, a le regret de faire savoir à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Hellénique que la Légation Ottomane à Athènes et les Consuls résidents en Grèce quitteront immédiatement le territoire Hellénique. Comme déduction naturelle de cette détermination, les relations

diplomatiques et commerciales entre la Turquie et la Grèce se trouvant interrompues, le Ministre, le personnel de la Légation et de la Chancellerie Hellénique à Constantinople, les Consuls Grecs dans l'Empire Ottoman, recevront leurs passeports. Les sujets respectifs des deux Etats devront quitter le pays qu'ils habitent dans le délai de quinze jours à partir du jour de la signification de la rupture des relations, et l'entrée des ports Ottomans se trouvera aussi interdite au pavillon Hellénique à partir de cette même date.

Le Soussigné, &c.

No. 49.

Sir A. Paget to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord,

Florence, December 18, 1868.

I REPORTED in my telegram of the 7th instant that the Italian Government had sent instructions to their Minister at Athens to advise the Greek Government to accede to the demands of the Turkish Government, and to avoid for the future giving any just ground of complaint to the Turkish Government.

While holding this language at Athens, the Italian Minister at Constantinople, I am informed by Count Menabrea, is likewise directed to give counsels of moderation to the Government of the Sultan.

In short, the object of the Italian Government is that the present differences between Greece and Turkey should not assume larger proportions, and they will use their best influence with both Governments to bring about an accommodation and to avert misunderstandings for the future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 50.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord,

Paris, December 22, 1868.

THE Marquis de Lavalette communicated to me this morning a telegram which he had received from the French Ambassador at Constantinople.

It states that after the expiration of the term of fifteen days, Greek vessels which left foreign ports before intelligence of the rupture could have reached them, will be admitted into Ottoman ports; that the term will also be extended for Greek subjects; and that the Porte does not require that Greek subjects shall be expelled from Roumania and Servia.

M. de Lavalette and I were equally at a loss to understand the precise meaning of the clause stating that the term would also be extended for Greek subjects.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 51.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1868.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 21st of December, respecting the wish of the Emperor of the French and of his Government that a Conference of the Powers, parties to the Treaty of Paris, should be convoked for the purpose of taking into consideration, and, if possible, providing a remedy for, the present critical state of relations between Turkey and Greece.

I have laid your despatch before the Queen; and having considered it in conjunction with Her Majesty's confidential advisers, I have now to instruct your Excellency to state to M. de Lavalette that His Imperial Majesty and his Government may be assured that any proposal or suggestion which they may bring before Her Majesty's Government will always be received and considered with the utmost attention by the Government of Her Majesty, and with the most sincere desire to agree with it.

Her Majesty's Government do not, any more than the Government of the Emperor, disguise from themselves the importance of the present crisis in Eastern affairs; but while

making allowance for the internal difficulties with which the Greek Government may have had to contend, they cannot admit that those difficulties should be pleaded against the plain requisitions of international law. They have viewed with anxiety the continuous provocations given by Greece to Turkey, and they have felt that, if those provocations were allowed to continue unrepressed, the forbearance of the Porte might be exhausted, and that it might have recourse to measures of retaliation, which would very easily degenerate into open warfare. Such a contingency Her Majesty's Government, having regard for the interests of the Porte as an ally, and of Greece as a State owing its very existence to the interposition of England, France, and Russia, cannot too earnestly deprecate, and therefore His Imperial Majesty may be assured that Her Majesty's Government are not inclined to withhold their co-operation towards the restoration of a good understanding between Turkey and Greece.

The process by which such a result may be produced is two-fold: the one the interposition of the three Powers who have hitherto been the sole protectors, under Treaty, of the Greek State; the other, the conjoint action of all the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris.

The first course is undoubtedly the one that most naturally suggests itself for adoption, inasmuch as the three Powers are not only guarantors for Greece against any unprovoked attack on the part of the Porte, but are therefore also, by implication, guarantors for Turkey against any unprovoked attack on the part of Greece.

Her Majesty's Government will not conceal from the Government of His Imperial Majesty their preference for such a tripartite interposition, nor their conviction that if the three Powers held the same language to both the Parties, and required both to suspend active operations, whether falling short of actual war or bearing the character of it, until the three Powers by the joint exercise of their good offices for securing the Porte from further vexation on the part of Greece, and Greece from further molestation of its subjects residing in Turkey as a measure of retaliation, shall have replaced the two countries on a friendly footing, the efforts of the three Powers will not prove to have been made in vain.

Nevertheless, as His Imperial Majesty desires that the question should be treated as one, though not immediately affecting the general interests of Europe, yet as very likely to do so if suffered to remain unadjusted, and therefore as one which should be brought before a Conference to which all the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris should be invited, Her Majesty's Government will not willingly stand aloof from such an Assembly, though, before formally agreeing to take part in it, they would wish to submit to the Government of His Imperial Majesty some considerations which they are of opinion ought to be fully weighed.

The first of these is, that in convoking the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris it would be impossible to exclude the Porte from taking part in the Conference. The Porte was a party to that Treaty, by which incident it was brought within the pale of European politics; but yet it would be difficult to admit the Porte and to exclude Greece: nevertheless, Greece would, under the Treaty of Paris, have no *locus standi* in a Conference composed of Powers who were parties to it.

This may be said to be a difficulty of form, but a difficulty of substance remains behind, which cannot be overlooked; and on this point Her Majesty's Government would be glad to be made acquainted with the views of the Government of His Imperial Majesty. I mean the previous definition of the attributes of the Conference. Her Majesty's Governments do not suppose that the Government of His Imperial Majesty contemplates that the deliberations of the Conference would be directed towards any other point than that for the settlement of which it was convened. This is essential to be provided for. But then, in order that the Conference may not waste its time in vague discussions, it would seem desirable that all the parties who come together should be agreed beforehand on a common basis on which the reconciliation of the litigant States should be effected; and that basis, if proposed by the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris, must needs embrace the principle that the integrity of the Ottoman Empire shall not be trenched upon; and specifically, as mentioned to your Excellency by M. de Lavalette, that no proposal to cede Crete to Greece should be brought forward.

Her Majesty's Government would be glad to be made acquainted with the views of M. de Lavalette in this matter. They feel convinced that a Conference convened without some definite scheme or outline of policy can lead to no practical result, and that so far from contributing to maintain the peace of Europe, such a Conference would be more likely to endanger it, by giving an opportunity for raising questions of the most delicate nature, and on which it might even be found that the Powers assembled in Conference, or at least some of them, entertained divergent views.

These doubts, you may assure M. de Lavalette, are not thrown out in any captious spirit, but the expression of them is dictated by a sincere desire on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that if a Conference is held, it may not end in disappointment or ill-feeling.

Your Excellency will read and give a copy of this despatch to M. de Lavalette.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 52.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1868.

BARON BRUNNOW has this day read to me a telegram, of which the substance is as follows:—

The Emperor considers that the co-operation of the European Powers is urgently required to check the progress of the Turco-Greek quarrel, but that this co-operation should not be limited to the three Protecting Powers, but should be shared by the other Powers, all being equally interested in the maintenance of general tranquillity. Russia is prepared to join, if France and England are inclined to instruct their Representatives at Constantinople and Athens to recommend the Porte to accept an European arbitration, and to suspend the extreme measures it has adopted, and to urge the Greek Government to abstain from further action.

I told Baron Brunnow that although Her Majesty's Government would have preferred the more simple way of settling by the intervention of the three Protecting Powers the quarrel between Turkey and Greece; yet that, as they are always anxious to act in concert with other Powers, and consider an agreement between them on this question to be of urgent importance, they will not be unwilling to consent to the proposed Conference; but they desire, first, to ascertain on what basis it will be convoked, and in what manner its discussions are to be limited.

Baron Brunnow expressed his satisfaction, and said he entirely agreed with me as to the necessity of a well-defined basis, and of the discussion being confined to the re-establishment of friendly relations between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 53.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Bloomfield.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1868.

COUNT APPONYI has this day read to me a despatch from Count Beust respecting the proposed Conference at Paris, which was assumed to be of Prussian origin, and which would have for its immediate object the suspension, on the part of the Turks, of the order to expel Greek subjects from the Ottoman territory, and, on the part of Greece, the cessation of all acts of aggression.

Count Apponyi said that his Government would not object to take part in such a Conference, but that instead of "all acts of aggression," it would prefer the words "suspension of all assistance to the Cretan insurrection."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 54

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 24.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 19, 1868.

I CALLED at an early hour this morning at the Foreign Office to fulfil the instructions conveyed to me by your Lordship's telegram of yesterday;* but as Prince Gortchakoff had gone to the Emperor, I had to defer seeing him till this afternoon. When I had

* See No. 27.

communicated to him the opinions and wishes of your Lordship, he said that he was most anxious to act in concert with Her Majesty's Government in recommending the Greek Government to give every reasonable satisfaction to the Porte, but that your telegram had doubtless been despatched before you were aware of the measures adopted at Constantinople for the expulsion of Greek subjects from all parts of the Turkish Empire ; measures which, in his opinion, were without precedent in a civilised country, and had greatly changed the state of the question. As I answered that your telegram had left London at 6 yesterday evening, when your Lordship must have been acquainted with the latest occurrences in Turkey and Greece, he said he would not discuss dates with me, but new circumstances had arisen, and the question had assumed proportions which required that it should be dealt with by all the Powers who had signed the Treaty of Paris. He had, therefore, taken the Emperor's orders on the subject, and His Majesty had approved of despatches which would be forwarded to-morrow to London and Paris, proposing that the Governments of Austria, Italy, and Prussia, should be invited to take measures in concert with the three Protecting Powers for bringing about an amicable arrangement between Greece and the Porte, and for preventing their dissensions proving dangerous to the general peace. He said he could not join your Lordship in condemning the conduct of the Greek Government only, and that it would be necessary to examine whether there were not faults on both sides, and to ascertain how far it had been possible for the King of the Hellenes to concede the demands which had been addressed to him. He said such a "chemical analysis" was an indispensable preliminary to any decision as to what the Greek Government should be recommended to concede, and he repeated that the Constitution gives to all Greeks full liberty to leave their own country, and to take part in such a contest as that which has been carried on in Crete. I therefore read to him the copy of the ultimatum which has been forwarded to Her Majesty's Government by Mr. Elliot, observing that there is no question in it of any volunteers, except of bands organised on Greek territory, and that if it claims the punishment, according to law, of persons who have committed acts of aggression against Ottoman subjects, it must of course be intended that they should be punished according to the laws of Greece. I urged, therefore, that the only demand in the ultimatum, to the concession of which he could object, as exposing the King to a charge of having violated the Constitution, was that respecting the "Enosis" and the "Panhellenion," which might perhaps be susceptible of some modification on the spot. As he continued, however, to reiterate his objections to the ultimatum, I asked whether he had a copy which contained other demands. He gave me no direct answer, but said Mr. Elliot's copy could not be considered official, and that we did not know the precise terms of the document as it had been addressed to the Greek Government, nor of the answers which had been given to it. It was certain, however, that the King could not have accepted the demands respecting the "Enosis" and the "Panhellenion," and Russia could not now adopt a proposal by which Greece alone was to be held responsible for the present complications, and the King was to be called upon by the Protecting Powers to act in violation of his constitutional engagements. He said that your Lordship, by recommending the acceptance of the ultimatum merely as a basis for negotiation, acknowledged indirectly that its demands required modification ; and if so, he trusted you would admit that his proposal was the best that could be adopted under the circumstances, and the most certain to prevent the question having consequences dangerous to the general peace. He could only, therefore, request me to assure your Lordship of his anxiety to co-operate with Her Majesty's Government in bringing about a satisfactory arrangement ; and in the hope that you will accept his proposal that the question should be treated by all the Powers who signed the Treaty of 1856, he suggested the expediency of England and France inviting the Porte and Greece, with the least possible delay, to suspend all hostile measures until the six Powers shall have had time to examine the whole question of their differences, and to adopt in concert means for their arrangement. He promised also that if such a step were taken by England and France, he would support it at Constantinople and Athens.

In answer to an inquiry from me he said he had not heard from Baron Brunnow since the arrival of the letters referred to in my despatch of the 16th instant,* from which I presume that your Lordship may not yesterday have been fully acquainted with the feelings of the Russian Government on the question ; but whatever concessions Prince Gortchakoff may eventually be induced to recommend to the Greek Government in concert with England and France, if they should be of opinion that the present difficulty should be arranged by the three Protecting Powers alone, it is evident that he will not be influenced by any arguments as to what these concessions should be, until he learns how his proposal

* See No. 39.

to submit the question to all the Powers who signed the Treaty of 1856 has been received in London and Paris.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 55.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 24.)

My Lord,

Paris, December 23, 1868.

THE Marquis de Lavalette told me this afternoon that he had been informed by Prince Metternich that, if the French Government thought it advisable that a Conference of the Great Powers should be held on the Turco-Greek question, Austria would consent to take part in one. In giving this consent, the Baron de Beust had, it appeared, made it conditional on a satisfactory understanding being come to as to the basis and the programme of the Conference.

M. de Lavalette told me that he looked upon this condition as perfectly proper and reasonable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 56.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 14, 1868.

THE Greek Minister here has received from his Government a despatch, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, informing him of the measures which had been taken to prevent desertions from the Greek army of soldiers desirous of joining the band of Petropoulaki.

I am not aware of the effect which this communication may have produced upon the Porte, but it may be questioned whether much value will be attached to the declaration of the Greek Government, that they will continue to follow "the same system of neutrality" as that which had hitherto guided them.

The official admission of the large number of soldiers which had joined the band will no doubt be duly recorded, while the statement of the measures adopted to prevent it, will probably be received with some incredulity by the Turkish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

M. P. Delyanni to M. T. Delyanni.

(Traduction.)

M. l'Envoyé,

Athènes, le 23 Novembre, 1868, v.s.

A LA suite de notre télégramme chiffré du 19 courant, nous avons l'honneur de vous transmettre, ci-joint, copie d'un Rapport du Ministre de la Guerre dont vous releverez quelles mesures sévères ont été décrétées pour la poursuite et l'arrestation des déserteurs de l'armée régulière qui avaient déserté leurs rangs dernièrement pour se rendre en Crète.

L'adoption de ces mesures de poursuite démontre irréfragablement la ferme décision du Gouvernement Hellénique de suivre, en ce qui concerne la lutte Crétoise, le même système de neutralité qu'il a suivi jusqu'à présent, et de remplir invariablement les devoirs que lui imposent ses engagements internationaux envers l'empire limitrophe, et ses relations de voisinage.

Vous voudrez bien donner, au besoin, ces explications au Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité, et aux Représentants des Puissances.

(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

General Milio to M. P. Delyanni.

(Traduction.)

Athènes, le 21 Novembre, 1868.

EN suite de l'entretien que nous venons d'avoir ensemble sur les désertions qui viennent d'avoir lieu dans les rangs de l'armée, à cause des enrôlements pour Candie, faits par le Colonel Pétropoulaki, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance les mesures que je viens de prendre pour arrêter les déserteurs, et prévenir le retour de pareilles désertions.

Le Commandant de Place d'Athènes, ayant conçu des soupçons sur la désertion de quelques soldats appartenants à la garnison, a pris les mesures convenables pour empêcher de pareils actes, et arrêter ceux qui auraient quitté leurs rangs. Par conséquent, le 7 courant, le Commandant de Place de Pirée en a arrêté quinze, et hier quatre. Quelques uns ont pu échapper, s'étant travestis. Nous avons infligé aux déserteurs arrêtés les peines réglementaires, vu qu'ils ont été arrêtés avant l'expiration du délai accordé par la loi militaire, pour le cas de repentir. Quant aux autres, on a ordonné une instruction, afin qu'ils soient poursuivis comme accusés de connivence de désertion à l'étranger.

Le 13 courant, ayant été informé par le Rapport du Commandant de Place de Nauplie, et le 15 par le rapport du Commandant de Place de Trepoli, que vingt-quatre soldats ont déserté de la garnison de la première de ces villes, et dix-sept de la seconde, j'ai ordonné par le télégraphe aux autorités militaires de Laconie, de rechercher les déserteurs, qui, d'après le rapport des dites autorités, s'étaient dirigés sur Githium (Maina), les arrêter et les envoyer aux corps respectifs. En même temps j'en ai informé le quatrième bataillon d'infanterie pour qu'il prît aussi les mesures nécessaires; ce qui a mené l'arrestation de quatorze déserteurs appartenants à la garnison de Tripoli, qui furent préventivement emprisonnés, pour que leur instruction soit faite.

Indépendamment de ces mesures, j'ai aussi adressé une circulaire à toutes les autorités militaires, afin d'éclairer les soldats sur les conséquences de la désertion, et en prévenir le retour.

Ayant été informé par le courrier d'aujourd'hui que des soldats faisant partie du sixième bataillon d'infanterie, stationné à Githium, sont soupçonnés de vouloir désertir, j'ai ordonné télégraphiquement qu'on y envoie un officier, avec la mission spéciale de prévenir cette désertion, et fixer aux soldats en question la peine qu'il jugerait convenable.

En terminant cette dépêche, je vous fais connaître, mon collègue, que, pour ce qui est des désertions, je persisterai dans les dispositions de ma circulaire, et je me montrerai très sévère; et c'est dans cet esprit que je me suis empressé d'expédier la circulaire en question, et réclamer la prompte et efficace poursuite des déserteurs.

Le Ministre,
(Signé) S. MILIO.

No. 57.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 15, 1868.

AT the invitation of the Greek Minister at Florence, General Menabrea instructed M. Bertinatti, the Italian Minister here, to convey to the Porte counsels of moderation in their present differences with Greece.

Aali Pasha's reply to M. Bertinatti, upon receiving this communication, was that, although he was always glad to listen to a friendly Government, as he regarded that of Italy, such advice would be more properly directed to Athens, where it was greatly required; whereas the Government of the Sultan had already given such proofs of moderation as must be recognized by all Europe.

My Italian colleague says, he was entirely of the same opinion as the Grand Vizier, and was therefore glad to learn that his Government had been urging moderation upon the Government at Athens.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 16, 1868.

AS it has been sometimes asserted that, in requiring the dissolution of Petropoulaki's band, the Turkish Government were requiring more than could be granted without violating the Greek law.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the 127th Article of the Greek Penal Code, which would make Petropoulaki and his companions liable to the punishment of death, unless, indeed, they can plead that they were acting by order or permission of the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 58.

Article 127 of the Penal Code of Greece.

Peine de Mort.—1. Contre ceux qui sans ordre ou permission du Gouvernement rassemblent ou enrôlent, seuls ou au moyen d'autres, des corps de troupes ou des soldats, ou s'emploient à cela, de même que ceux qui en connaissance de cause et volontairement se rassemblent de cette façon pour une campagne.

2. Contre les Chefs de Corps qui gardent rassemblées leurs troupes après que le Gouvernement leur a donné l'ordre de les licencier ou de les renvoyer dans leurs foyers.

La même peine est encourue par celui qui volontairement et en connaissance de cause continue de rester dans une telle armée.

3. Contre ceux qui sans droit ou raison légale acceptent un commandement quelconque sur terre ou sur mer, et, désobéissant aux ordres du Gouvernement, n'abandonnent pas ce commandement.

Voir les Articles (P. 47, 113, 131, 126, 227, 447, 450).

(Translation.)

Penalty of Death.—1. Against those who, without order or permission from the Government, assemble or enrol, whether themselves or by agency of others, bodies of troops or soldiers, or attempt to do so, as well as those who, with full knowledge and voluntarily thus assemble themselves for a campaign.

2. Against Commanders of corps who keep their troops together after the Government has given the order to disband or send them back to their homes. The same penalty is incurred by whomsoever voluntarily and with full knowledge still remains with such an armed force.

3. Against those who, without right or legal ground, accept any command whatever whether on land or at sea, and, disobeying the orders of the Government, do not relinquish such command.

No. 59.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 16, 1868.

LORD STANLEY'S telegram of the 7th instant, desiring me to warn the Greek Government of the serious danger they would incur by wantonly provoking a contest with Turkey, did not reach me until late at night on the 12th. I at once asked to see M. Delyanni; and on the following morning he called upon me at 11 o'clock.

On my acquainting him with the substance of Lord Stanley's communication, he said that he well knew that, in the event of a contest with Turkey, wantonly provoked by Greece, the Guaranteeing Powers would be justified in throwing upon Greece the responsibility of her acts; but that the Greek Government were persuaded that when Her Majesty's Government were apprized of all that has occurred, they could not fail to acknowledge that Turkey was alone to blame for having provoked the impending conflict.

I replied, that I had no reason to believe that any representation which he could

make would alter the opinion of Her Majesty's Government; that I presumed the Greek Government had not kept back any circumstances which they thought would tend to establish the rectitude and moderation of their conduct; and yet, that the impression produced upon my mind, as well as upon those of nearly all my colleagues, was precisely the same as that which appeared to have been made upon Lord Stanley. My present object, however, was not to raise a useless argument, but to induce the Greek Government to return such an answer to the Turkish ultimatum as would prevent the immediate departure of M. Photiades, and give time for negotiation; and I offered, in concert with my French colleague, to do everything in my power to smooth the path to reconciliation with Turkey.

Without troubling your Lordship with all that passed between M. Delyanni and myself on this occasion, I may state that he gradually became more reasonable in his observations, and appeared to be so disposed to discuss with me the terms upon which an accommodation might be effected, that upon his pressing me to let him have a copy of Lord Stanley's instruction, I took upon myself to give him the substance of it in writing, in order that his hands might be strengthened in persuading his colleagues also to acquiesce in the course recommended by Her Majesty's Government.

But I regret to say that M. Delyanni was either trifling with me, or he was unable to induce the King and his colleagues to acquiesce in his views, as the Prussian Minister, who had occasion to see M. Bulgari on the following morning to advise moderate counsels in the name of his Government, was at once informed most peremptorily by the Prime Minister that the Hellenic Government were determined not to give way in the matter. The Italian Minister likewise recommended conciliation in the most pressing terms, and the same advice was tendered by the Austrian Envoy, by order of their respective Governments. The Russian Chargé d'Affaires, as he informs me, advised M. Delyanni to avoid a rupture. He was not, however, acting under instructions from his Government, but merely at the suggestion of General Ignatieff.

The instructions of the French Minister were not as explicit as would have been desirable, but he was able to gather the intentions of his Government from an expression in a telegram from the Marquis de Moustier, alluding to the instructions given by Count Bismarck to the Prussian Minister in Greece, and Baron Baude accordingly agreed to speak to M. Delyanni precisely in the same sense as that of Lord Stanley's telegram.

All, however, was of no avail, and at about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon M. Delyanni called on Photiades Bey, and placed in his hands a lengthy note in reply to the Turkish ultimatum, which is obviously meant as an unqualified rejection of its demands.

M. Photiades has accordingly taken down the arms over the house occupied by the Turkish Legation, and he will embark to-morrow with all the members of his Mission.

Your Lordship's telegram of the 12th instant adopting the instructions of Her Majesty's late Government, did not reach me until yesterday evening, after the reply had been given to M. Photiades: but I have not failed to acquaint M. Delyanni with its purport.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 60.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 16, 1868.

I HAVE already acquainted your Lordship by telegraph with the substance of the intelligence contained in the accompanying copies of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, and of its inclosures, reporting that a Turkish naval force under Hobart Pasha had fallen in with the notorious blockade-runner "Enosis," at about six miles from shore, and that after an exchange of shots between the cruisers and the "Enosis," the latter had been chased into the port of Syra, where the Turkish Admiral had cast anchor, insisting on the immediate surrender or punishment of the alleged "pirate."

Admiral Hobart, as your Lordship will observe, requires the "signal punishment of an act of piracy," but he states that he is willing that a proper investigation of the affair shall take place before the Consuls of the different nations, by whose decision he will abide. The Admiral's demand was doubtless framed in what he considered a spirit of conciliation, after the gross provocation he had received; but it is obvious that there was but little chance of its being complied with, as the Greek authorities are powerless to punish the "Enosis" as a pirate until she has been tried and condemned by a competent

tribunal ; whilst the Consular body can scarcely be expected to undertake a duty which is altogether foreign to their functions.

I presume, therefore, that Admiral Hobart was so exasperated by the outrage, that he has taken the unusual step of demanding the surrender by the Greek authorities of a vessel under their own flag.

I have requested Mr. Consul Lloyd to decline taking any part in the proposed investigation. I have, however, recommended him, in case he should be consulted by Admiral Hobart, to lose no opportunity of advising him to avoid bringing on a collision until his Government shall have had an opportunity of considering the point at issue, and, if necessary, giving him instructions to proceed to extremities.

The French Minister, however, has gone a step further. After a consultation with Admiral Moulac, the French corvette "Forbin" has been despatched to Syra on a mission of peace. Her commander, Captain Meyer, has been desired to call upon Hobart Pasha, and to state to him that Admiral Moulac, without taking upon himself in any way to dictate to the Pasha what course he should under the circumstances pursue, ventures, in the name of a friendly Government, to advise him most earnestly not to precipitate hostilities by insisting on conditions with which the Greek Government may be unable to comply, but to wait quietly until the Porte has had time to consult the great Powers, and to make known its decision. Captain Meyer is moreover directed to refrain from actual interference between the parties. Should a conflict unfortunately ensue, he is to move his ship out of the way, and remain a passive spectator of the action.

With every wish to prevent the outbreak of hostilities between Greece and Turkey, I do not consider that I should be justified in requesting the officer in command of the vessel of war on this station to follow the example of the "Forbin." Her Majesty's Government have repeatedly and solemnly warned the Greek Government that they would not be protected in the event of their provoking a rupture with Turkey. They have quite recently committed one act after another altogether incompatible with the position of a friendly Power. The very shot from the "Enosis" which struck the Admiral's vessel was probably fired from a gun furnished to the "Enosis" by a Government arsenal. It therefore appeared to me that it would be the height of inconsistency to tell the Greek Government one day that we intended in a certain contingency to leave them to their own resources, and when that very contingency arises, to send a British man-of-war to interpose between the contending parties. Such a course would only tend to perpetuate the impunity which the Greek Government have so long enjoyed, and to convince the nation that they may commit any act against Turkey, however monstrous, with the certainty that on the day of reckoning the Powers will come forward, and screen them from the consequences of their unlawful acts. In short, I can understand a European intervention ending in a military occupation of this Kingdom ; but I can see no advantage in attempting to prevent a conflict in one place, which sooner or later would inevitably break out elsewhere.

At about a quarter to 7 yesterday evening, M. Tipaldo, a gentleman attached to the Greek Foreign Office, called upon me, and stated that he was sent by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform me that the corvette "Hellas" and another vessel of war were about to start for Syra. That on their arrival there, the Nomarch would require Hobart Pasha to leave the port and Greek waters at once ("dans un bref délai"), and that in the event of his declining to attend to this injunction he would be attacked by the Greek vessels, which would do their utmost to capture or destroy the vessels under his command. M. Tipaldo added that the "Hellas" would quit the Piræus in about an hour, and that a similar message had been delivered by another gentleman to the Turkish and French Ministers, whilst he was about to seek the Russian Chargé d'Affaires for the same purpose. On rising to leave, he inquired whether I wished him to take back any answer to his message. I replied that I was so astounded at the communication, and so convinced of the hopelessness of doing anything at so short a notice that would be of the least use, that I could only express my deep regret at the extreme measure which was about to be adopted, but that I would acquaint my Government with what I had heard. He replied that the national honour imperatively required that Admiral Hobart should be driven from Syra, and that, at whatever cost, the attempt would be made.

I subsequently heard from Photiades Bey that he was informed by the gentleman who called at his house, that one hour would be the short delay accorded to Hobart Pasha to make up his mind.

The "Hellas" is a covered screw corvette of about 1,500 tons, mounting 24 guns. She is an old, crank vessel built in England, and her deck is too crowded with guns for her to have much chance against a heavily-armed frigate like the Turkish flag-ship, if the latter is properly fought and handled. But I understand that the "Hellas" has taken on

board a considerable number of picked artillerymen, with whose assistance her commander has been instructed to carry the Turk, if practicable, by boarding.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

P.S. *December 17th*, 1868.—In a letter dated the 15th, which I have received this morning, Mr. Consul Lloyd has forwarded to me the accompanying translation of the Report addressed to his employers by the Captain of the “Enosis,” respecting his last trip to Crete with the expedition of Petropoulaki—in which I notice an allusion to two guns he had on board. These, doubtless, are the guns supplied by the Government arsenal at Nauplia, to which I have alluded in a previous despatch respecting Petropoulaki’s proceedings whilst at Nauplia.

Mr. Lloyd informs me that four shots were fired by the “Enosis” at the Turkish cruisers, the second of which alone took effect, the gun having been displaced from its pivot at the first shot. He adds, “in the present case the firing commenced near, if not in, Greek waters,” a point which it may be difficult to establish: Admiral Hobart affirming that the first shot was fired at about six miles from the shore, whilst the Greek Captain estimates the distance at half-a-mile.

E. M. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Greek Steam Navigation Office, Syra, December 14, 1868, 10 A.M.

AT 8 A.M. this day, the “Enosis” returning from Crete entered the harbour pursued by a two-funnelled vessel, supposed to be the “Izzedin” or “Fuad,” and by a Turkish frigate supposed to have Admiral Hobart Pasha on board. The small English steam-tug “Maggie Smart” entered the harbour a minute or two before the “Enosis.” Guns were fired by the two-funnelled vessel at the “Enosis” between the Island of Aspronisi and the Lighthouse Island. All four vessels are now anchored in the harbour, the frigate at the entrance. All the town in great excitement, the Consuls were invited by the Nomarch to come here, and the Nomarch says, that seeing in the papers that Hobart Pasha had orders to take the “Enosis” though she might be in the port of Syra, and as there were so many vessels in the harbour, and the Greeks would assuredly resist, he begged us to interpose in order to prevent bloodshed. It is decided we wait till the boat sent from the Health Office return, and we are waiting its return.

M. Axelos has just joined us. The “Enosis” left Gythion on Monday last, the 7th, and went to Sissi of Mirabello, where she landed some 600 men; thence she went to Kimolo of Milo Island, and on the 11th instant went to Mirton of Agios Vassilios and landed the rest, some 350, and the ammunition and provisions, and returning here, fell in with the Turks, who pursued her to Syra. A boat from the Turkish vessel has just come ashore, and M. Axelos is gone on board. A Greek steamer is getting ready for the Piræus, and I write these few lines in the greatest haste.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

P.S.—M. Canaris, of the guard-cutter here, has been on board the frigate and given it pratique. The Admiral showed him the marks of a ball from the “Enosis” which grazed his decks; he said that he, the Admiral, said the latter had just fired a blank shot at the “Enosis” to stop her, and not stopping, he fired a shot, which the “Enosis” returned; that he intended to ask for satisfaction from the competent authority, and that if it was not given he will take it himself. These shots were exchanged half-a-mile beyond Aspronisi.

The Commandant of the Austrian gun-boat “Wall,” in harbour here, has just come, stating he came from Admiral Hobart to demand of the Nomarch that he, the Nomarch, should declare in writing that the “Enosis” is, and remains under sequestration and arrest here, as accused of piracy, and that in case of refusal he will lay an embargo and prevent any Greek vessel in the harbour from leaving it.

M. Axelos is returned; he says the Admiral told him to tell us that he has entered the harbour in pursuit of a pirate, and will await orders—meantime will be happy to see the Consuls. M. Deubritz declared not to go; the others decided not to go in a body, each for himself if he chose to go.

2 P.M.—It being the intention of the Nomarch to send a strong protest to Admiral Hobart against his proceedings, the Consuls begged him to ask for Admiral Hobart's verbal communications by Captain of "Wall" and by M. Axelos, in writing; and I was requested to go on board for the purpose. I went directly, saw Admiral Hobart, delivered the message, and brought back his demand in writing, of which annexed is a copy. Admiral Hobart said he did not wish to do any harm to the town or its inhabitants, but insists that "Enosis" be prevented from leaving the port: he has sent for other vessels from Crete. The Nomarch is now replying that he cannot take upon himself to decide such a matter, and sends off an express steamer to Athens, and will give a reply as soon as it returns, and that meantime, as far as depends on him (the Nomarch) "Enosis" shall not leave the port. I believe I am to take the Nomarch's reply. M. Axelos decides to go to Athens by the express boat.

I learn that "Enosis" first landed near Bali 600 men on Tuesday night, thence went to Kimolo, where she took 320 more, and went east of Crete, and landed them at Mirto; thence for bad weather went behind Gaidouronisi, south of Crete, stayed there thirty hours, thence to Gulf of Mirabello, where landed the ammunition; thence to Santa Maria of Paros, where she arrived at 10 P.M. last night, and left this morning at half-past 5 A.M. for Syra.

4 P.M.—I have just returned from Admiral Hobart with the announced reply, and must close as the boat will be leaving. I asked if he wished to write, but he said he had no time, and you would know the news from me.

"Maggie Smart" is hired by Admiral Hobart.

ST. V. L

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Vice-Admiral Hobart to M. Dracopoulo.

Sir,

"Hudavendikiai," Syra, December 14, 1868.

THIS morning, at 8 o'clock, being in my flag-ship, accompanied by the Turkish war-steamer "Izzedin," I observed the far-famed corsair "Enosis," who, I believe, was on her return voyage from Crete, where (after having openly armed with Armstrong guns at this port) she had, as I understand, landed a large number of Greek insurgents to assist in the revolution. We were at the time about six miles from the land. I ordered the "Izzedin" to follow her and to fire blank guns to bring her too; after the first gun had been fired, the "Enosis" replied with a shotted gun; the shot struck my ship and destroyed two boats; on which the "Izzedin" very properly also fired shot and followed her to within four miles of the port. I then steamed in and anchored here. Now, as the "Enosis" has, by so firing at a man-of-war, committed an act of piracy, I call on you to arrest her and allow me to make proper charges against this armed pirate. I trust that to avoid any unpleasant consequences your Excellency will see the necessity of at once acting—not to mention the patent fact that the "Enosis" has for two years been committing, with the perfect knowledge of yourself and all the Greek authorities, acts by which she has broken the law of nations. This act of piracy requires signal punishment—I need say no more; I leave it to the good feeling of yourself and the people here. I am willing that a proper investigation of this affair shall take place before the Consuls of the different nations here; and I will abide by their decision.

In the meantime I wait here your answer.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS HOBART.

Inclosure 3 in No. 60.

M. Dracopoulo to Vice Admiral Hobart Pasha.

Sir,

Syra, December $\frac{2}{14}$, 1868.

IN reply to your despatch of this day's date, I have the honour to acquaint you that as I do not consider myself authorized to take upon myself the decision of a matter of such importance, I will send at once an express steamer to Athens to submit to the Royal Government your communication; and will, of course, hasten to acquaint you of its decision as soon as I receive it.

In the meantime, I beg to inform you that, as far as depends upon me, the "Enosis" shall not leave the port of Syra.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. P. DRACOPOULO, *Nomarch of the Cyclades.*

Inelasure 4 in No. 60.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to M. Dracopoulos.

Sir,

"Hudavendikiar," December 14, 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and to thank your Excellency for the prompt way in which you have acted. I wish your Excellency to make it public that the only object of the Turkish vessels here is to prevent the escape of the piratical vessel "Enosis," a duty which I hope to perform to the satisfaction of all persons.

I have not the slightest idea of threatening in any way this place or its inhabitants, with whom I wish to be, if possible, on friendly terms.

I am, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS HOBART.

Inelasure 5 in No. 60.

Protest of the Captain of "Enosis."

(Translation.)

To the Directors of the Greek Steam Navigation Company.

THE Undersigned, Captain of the Greek steamer "Enosis," has to report that this day, Monday, the $\frac{2}{14}$ December, about 6 A.M., as he was coming into the port of Syra with his vessel, he encountered, in the waters of Syra, about half-a-mile distant from the island, two Turkish ships, a frigate and a steam yacht, which vessels, on perceiving his ship, bearing the Hellenic flag, fired several shots of large size and also from muskets; the pursuing vessels having approached his ship within musket-shot, the crew of the "Enosis" turned-up and manned the guns, shouting that they must defend themselves, lest the Turks should sink them; and they fired the guns and put the vessel at full speed to hasten her entrance into the port of Syra, which she effected under the fire of the Turkish ships, but, under God's blessing, without having suffered any damage. The Undersigned is in duty bound to make this statement, in order to preserve the rights of the Greek Steam Navigation Company—an insult having been committed, contrary to the law of nations, against the vessel and the flag—as well as with a view to the damage which ensued from the firing. He therefore protests on all these heads, and requests that a copy of the present may be delivered to him.

Syra, December $\frac{2}{14}$, 1868.

(Signed) N. SOURMELI.

Inelasure 6 in No. 60.

Report of Captain N. Sourmeli.

(Translation.)

WE left Syra Saturday 23rd November (o. s.) at 9 P.M., and arrived at Gythion on Sunday morning. On Sunday evening we left Gythion, taking 900 volunteers, and arrived at Kimolo on Tuesday morning; thence we left at 1 P.M. with Leonidas Petropoulaki, and about 600 men, and arrived at Calakorafia or Sissais, near Bali, at 8 o'clock in the evening, where we landed the men who had brought with them provisions for five days. Thence we left after two hours, and returned to Kimolo at 7 o'clock A.M. on the Wednesday, having taken thence the old Petropoulaki with the rest of his men—300. Next day, Thursday, at half-past 8 P.M. we left thence, and having passed between Graboussa and Cerigotto we met two Turkish steamers which chased us for about two hours, but in vain they tried; because of the darkness, the bad weather, and the change of our direction they did not see us, we escaping their pursuit. On Friday approaching Gavdo at 11 A.M., at about twenty miles distant from it, we sighted a Turkish frigate cruising and going from Gavdo to Sphakia, which it seems did not see us, and so we gained time and left her immediately behind. At 4 P.M. we sighted another Turkish chaser bound from Gavdo to Sphakia, but neither did she perceive us. At 10 P.M. we proceeded to Prassonissi, where

we landed the men and all the cargo, except 120 boxes cartridges, 2 cannons, with appurtenances, which M. Petropoulaki did not wish to take with him, being short of mules. At 3 A.M. of Saturday, we left Prassonissi during very bad weather, and at 7 next morning we proceeded to Psariforathi, and landed the 120 boxes of cartridges, which were taken by the insurgents there, from whom we learned that a fight had taken place two days ago at Yerapetra, under the Chief Sphakianaki, where we (the insurgents) gained the victory, having killed many Turks. We left Prassonissi immediately, having taken on board a Turkish soldier who was a prisoner, and we arrived at Gaidoronissi at 9 P.M.; and from Gaidoronissi we started at 8 A.M. of Sunday, and arrived at Paros yesterday at midnight. From Paros we started at 6 o'clock this morning, and at 8 A.M., entering the harbour of Syra, we met outside Aspronissi three Turkish vessels which fired at us in sight of this commercial town, and of the Consuls of the friendly Powers, and in sight of the European men-of-war stationed in the harbour of Syra.

Syra, December 2, 1868, o.s.

No. 61.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 17, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a note from M. Delyanni, protesting against the alleged pursuit by Hobart Pasha of the blockade-runner "Enosis" in Greek waters, repeating, as already stated in the previous number of my despatches, that the Pasha will be required to quit the port of Syra immediately; and, finally, throwing upon the Turkish Government the entire responsibility of the hostilities which may be the result of Hobart Pasha's acts.

I have informed M. Delyanni, in reply, that a copy of his note will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 61.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Erskine.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le $\frac{4}{16}$ Decembre, 1868.

UNE flagrante violation de notre territoire et du droit des gens vient de se commettre à Syra, par l'Anglais Hobart, Vice-Amiral Ottoman.

Tandis que la paix n'avait pas encore cessé d'exister entre la Grèce et la Turquie, tandis que la rupture des relations diplomatiques n'était pas même consommée, la marine Turque a commencé les hostilités de la manière la plus inattendue et la plus audacieuse.

Vous savez déjà comment le bateau de la Compagnie Hellénique de Navigation à Vapeur "Enosis" fut attaqué à un demi-mille de distance de Syra le $\frac{2}{14}$ de ce mois dans son voyage de retour de Candie, par une escadre Turque sous le commandement immédiat du dit officier.

Les navires Turcs se mirent aussitôt, après l'avoir rencontré, à le canonner, dans l'intention évidente de le couler bas, et il ne dut son salut qu'à la rapidité de sa marche et à la proximité du port. Son équipage se vit obligé de tirer sur ces navires deux coups de canon pour se défendre et parvenir à gagner le port, en les faisant reculer pour un instant; c'est ce qui eut lieu en effet.

L'Amiral Ottoman ne s'est pas borné à cet acte de violence. Impuissant à capturer "l'Enosis" dans les eaux de Candie ou à la haute mer, et ayant échoué dans l'attaque insidieuse et illicite qu'il avait dirigée contre ce bateau, il continua à lui donner la chasse jusque dans le port de Syra, qu'il tint en quelque sorte bloqué.

Les remontrances de nos autorités et celles des Consuls étrangers n'avaient pas réussi, au départ du courrier, à faire comprendre à l'Amiral en question l'illégalité de ses procédés, et à lui faire quitter la position menaçante qu'il avait prise.

Dans cette situation le Gouvernement du Roi n'avait qu'à consulter sa dignité et l'amour-propre national, gravement offensé. Il a expédié, ainsi que je vous l'ai fait savoir hier soir, des bâtiments de l'Etat avec l'ordre d'inviter Hobart Pacha à quitter les eaux de Syra, et d'employer la violence contre lui dans le cas où il n'y consentirait pas.

Si un conflit a eu lieu, si le sang a coulé, si le port d'une ville commerçante a été le

théâtre de déplorables hostilités, et si la guerre s'en suit, la responsabilité tout entière en pèsera sur l'Amiral Turc et sur son Gouvernement.

La conscience du monde civilisé flétrira, à juste titre, la conduite de cet officier. Mais la position particulière de la Grèce vis-à-vis des trois Puissances qui ont garanti son indépendance, me fait un devoir de protester de la manière la plus énergique contre ce qui vient de se passer à Syra, et de vous prier de vouloir bien porter cette protestation à la connaissance de votre Gouvernement.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

No. 62.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 17, 1868.

THE Turkish Minister, Photiades Bey, left Athens at about 11 A.M. this day, and embarked for Constantinople on board the steamer of the Messageries Impériales. He was accompanied to the Piræus by a small escort of cavalry, and there was no demonstration or disturbance.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a letter which has reached me this morning from Mr. Consul Lloyd, giving the latest intelligence from Syra. There had been no collision between the Turkish and Greek vessels up to yesterday at P.M. when the steamer left, but Admiral Hobart was cruising outside the harbour and it remains to be seen whether the "Hellas" will attempt to compel the Turkish squadron to quit Greek waters also.

I am informed by the French Minister that Captain Meyer, of the "Forbin," found Hobart Pasha most desirous to avoid provoking a contest, and he has addressed a letter to the Greek authorities which I am told is extremely moderate and well-written, offering to withdraw his squadron provided the Greek Government will consent that the "Enosis" shall be escorted by the "Hellas" to the Piræus, to be tried there by the competent Greek Tribunal.

Baron Baude has written a private letter to M. Delyanni recommending him very strongly to adopt either this proposal, or one to the effect that the whole matter shall be referred to arbitration. His Excellency suggested that I also should advise M. Delyanni to acquiesce in this offer, and I have undertaken to do so as far as the first alternative is concerned; but it does not appear to me that it would be advisable to ask the Greek Government to allow the case of a Greek vessel accused of piracy to be decided by arbitration, as they would obviously reply that they have no power to interfere in a purely judicial matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Dear Sir,

Syra, December 14, 1868, 4 P.M.

MANY thanks for yours of yesterday, both received this morning. I never had an idea, nor do I believe the other Consuls had, either, of taking upon themselves the responsibility of deciding between the Nomarch and Admiral Hobart; it was, of course, a great mistake of the latter. I was glad of it, however, in order to be able to make some peaceful arrangement for the moment, and in which I succeeded; and if I can be of any further use in that way, you may be sure I will. The occasion may come yet.

Early this morning a four-funnelled Turk was seen in the harbour; at 9.30 A.M. the "Forbin" arrived; at 9.45 the "Austrian" from Piræus with M. Axelos, and the "Panhellenion," about the same time I believe, with news of the rupture at Athens.

At 11.45 A.M., Admiral Hobart steamed out of the harbour with the "Izzedin" and the four-funnelled steamer, and have been cruising about ever since.

At 1 P.M. the "Hellas" came in and took a berth in the centre of entrance to harbour, and the "Izzedin" came once very close in to her, as though to challenge her.

At 2 P.M. there arrived, seemingly from Crete, another vessel, a steam corvette, which

has joined Admiral Hobart outside. I see now a boat with Turkish flag at the stern of the "Forbin" and a boat from "Forbin" has just gone off to "Hellas." I have just written to Admiral Lord Clarence Paget, stating shortly how matters are here, and what vessels have come.

I expect Admiral Hobart will continue off Syra harbour until he has orders to move off, and that he will not lose sight of "Enosis" or "Crete," and will attack the former, if he has a chance, the moment she stirs out of the harbour.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 63.

M. E. Musurus to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 26.)

Bryanston Square, le 26 Décembre, 1868.

E. MUSURUS BEY présente ses compliments à M. Hammond, et a l'honneur de lui transmettre ci-joint copie d'une dépêche télégraphique qu'il vient de recevoir de son Excellence Safvet Pacha, et qu'il prie M. Hammond de vouloir bien communiquer à son Excellence le Comte de Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Bryanston Square, December 26, 1868.

E. MUSURUS BEY presents his compliments to Mr. Hammond, and has the honour to transmit to him herewith copy of a telegram which he has just received from his Excellency Safvet Pasha, and which he requests Mr. Hammond to have the goodness to communicate to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Safvet Pasha to M. E. Musurus.

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 23 Décembre, 1868.

JE vous ai déjà fait connaître les raisons de la mesure de l'expulsion des Hellènes. La Commission instituée pour l'exécution de cette mesure ne pouvant terminer sa tâche dans le délai fixé de quinze jours, nous avons dû le prolonger de trois semaines.

Pour ce qui concerne l'interdiction du pavillon Hellénique, cette mesure ne s'étend pas aux bâtiments qui, avant la notification faite par le Gouvernement Impérial, se sont trouvés en route chargés de marchandises en destination d'un port Ottoman.

Voilà tout ce que nous pouvons faire pour adoucir dans son application une mesure impérieusement commandée par les circonstances.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, December 23, 1868.

I HAVE already made you acquainted with the reasons for the measure of the expulsion of the Hellenes. The Commission instituted for the execution of this measure being unable to complete its task within the fixed period of fifteen days, we have been obliged to prolong it by three weeks.

With regard to the interdiction of the Hellenic flag, this measure does not affect vessels which, previous to the notification issued by the Imperial Government, had started laden with merchandize, destined for an Ottoman port.

This is all that we can do to alleviate the application of a measure which is absolutely necessitated by the circumstances.

No. 64.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 27.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 19, 1868.

I SAW M. Delyanni yesterday, and communicated to him the substance of your Lordship's telegram of the 16th instant,* directing me to recommend the Greek Govern-

* See No. 13.

ment to do their utmost to avoid allowing the interruption of diplomatic relations with Turkey to degenerate into hostilities. I also availed myself of the opportunity to state that I had been assured by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople that although the Porte is determined to insist upon a compliance with its just demands, it has no present intention of resorting to hostilities, unless Greece should force it to do so.

M. Delyanni replied that the Greek Government were anxious, as far as might be possible, to adopt the advice given them by Her Majesty's Government, but that much would depend upon the course followed by the Porte. That if Turkey persisted in carrying out to its full extent the threatened expulsion of Greek subjects from Turkey, and the exclusion of Greek vessels from Turkish waters, the sufferers from those measures would necessarily be dispersed throughout Greece and could not fail to augment the public exasperation to such an extent that it would be impossible for the Government to prevent the outbreak of war. Already, he said, the Government had been compelled so far to give way to public opinion as to apply to the Chamber for authority to raise an extraordinary loan of 100,000,000 drachmas (3,571,428*l.*), and a portion of this money would be used for fortifications and other warlike measures; but he could assure me that they had no wish to push matters to extremities, and that nothing would be done wantonly to provoke hostilities.

I asked M. Delyanni whether he considered that his answer to the Turkish ultimatum amounted to an absolute rejection of its demands.

He said that he did not feel bound to express any opinion upon the subject; that it was for the Porte to determine whether the answer was satisfactory or not; but he admitted that I had correctly summarized its purport as follows:—

Absolute rejection of the two first points; refusal to make any concession in regard to the third; denial that there was any occasion to discuss the two last, inasmuch as the supposed murderer of an Ottoman subject at Syra had absconded to Crete; whilst the Greek Government cannot admit that they have infringed any Treaty or obligation of public law.

In case, however, M. Braila should not yet have communicated to your Lordship the document in question, a copy of it is herewith inclosed.

As M. Delyanni has solemnly affirmed in his note to the Representatives of the three Guaranteeing Powers, of the 9th instant, that the Greek Government never have permitted, and never will permit, armed blockade-runners to leave their ports, I transmit, herewith, an extract from a letter which has been addressed to me by Mr. Consul Lloyd, dated the 6th instant; describing the means openly taken to arm the "Enosis" with two Armstrong guns furnished to that vessel by the Greek Government, and the public trial of those guns in the port of Syra. For some reason, which I have not been able to ascertain, this letter was not delivered to me until the 16th instant.

I herewith inclose copies of two letters addressed by Admiral Hobart to the Commander of the French corvette "Forbin" and to the Commander of the Greek corvette "Hellas," from which I infer that the Admiral would now be satisfied with the seizure and detention of the "Enosis" by the captain of the "Hellas," with a view to her trial on the charge of piracy preferred by Admiral Hobart.

M. Delyanni was not able to state to me what decision would be come to by the Greek Government in regard to this proposal; but I am not without hope that it will eventually be adopted. He appeared to be bent upon explaining to Admiral Hobart that the "Enosis" had committed no offence against Greek law, and that she would almost certainly be acquitted; but I urged him not to complicate matters by entering into discussion upon a point which, it must be assumed, had already been considered by Admiral Hobart. There were already six or seven Turkish vessels cruising off Syra. It is not conceivable, therefore, that the "Hellas" would be so unwise as to provoke a contest with a force so overpoweringly superior; and if the "Enosis" can be got away from Syra, all danger of an immediate collision will be over; time will be gained for negotiation and, if necessary, for the interposition of the Guaranteeing Powers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

M. Delyanni to Photiades Bey.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 15^e Décembre, 1868.

LE Gouvernement du Roi mon auguste Souverain a vu avec regret, mais sans surprise, la démarche que vous venez de faire d'ordre du Gouvernement de la Sublime Porte par votre note en date du 29 Novembre.
11 Décembre.

Le ton de vos précédentes communications et les informations que j'avais reçues me faisaient pressentir l'attitude que la Sublime Porte, pour des motifs tout autres sans doute que ceux qui lui y ont servi de prétexte, a résolu de prendre à notre égard. Je n'ai pas hésité à vous en exprimer ma conviction dans la note que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous adresser le ^{27 Novembre} 9 Décembre, et les faits sont venus démontrer que, quelques conciliantes qu'eussent les dispositions du Gouvernement Royal, son bon vouloir se serait brisé contre le parti pris par la Sublime Porte. C'est en vain que je me suis attaché à y faire ressortir que rien de nouveau n'était survenu de nature à altérer les relations d'amitié qui ont jusqu'à présent existé entre les deux Etats. C'est en vain que je vous ai donné des explications catégoriques et tranquillissantes. C'est en vain que je vous ai signalé la protection accordée par nos autorités à ceux des réfugiés Crétois qui voulaient effectivement retourner dans leurs foyers, les mesures de repression qui avaient été prises contre les instigateurs de violences, et les restrictions qui découlent de nos institutions en ce qui concerne l'action Gouvernementale sur les particuliers.

Mes explications, comme mes assurances, ont été de nul effet. Deux jours après avoir reçu ma note responsive vous me faisiez l'honneur de m'adresser la vôtre en date du ^{29 Novembre} 11 Décembre sous forme d'ultimatum. Sans y faire aucune mention de ma dite note vous posez des conditions pour la plupart incompatibles avec la législation du pays et la dignité du Gouvernement Royal, en les faisant précéder de considérations en tous points erronées sur la révolution Crétoise, d'assertions inexactes sur la position des réfugiés Crétois en Grèce et sur les motifs qui les ont engagés à y venir demander l'hospitalité, de faits controuvés sur le traitement des sujets Ottomans en Grèce, et d'accusations gratuites contre la bonne foi du Gouvernement Hellénique.

Vous m'annoncez en terminant que, si ces conditions n'étaient pas acceptées dans un délai de cinq jours, la rupture des relations diplomatiques et commerciales entre les deux Etats aurait lieu sans retard, et serait suivie du renvoi des sujets Hellènes de l'Empire Ottoman et de l'exclusion de notre marine des ports de cet Empire.

Les développements contenus dans ma note susénoncée du ^{27 Novembre} 9 Décembre m'auraient dispensé de discuter, à nouveau, les griefs mis en avant par la Sublime Porte; mais la persistance qu'elle montre, cédant à un entraînement inexplicable à mettre sur le compte d'autrui les conséquences de sa propre conduite, à intervertir les rôles et les situations, me fait un devoir de rétablir les faits dans toute leur exactitude et de protester énergiquement contre tout travestissement de la vérité.

Il serait superflu de retracer ici les origines et la marche de la révolution Crétoise. Tout le monde sait que les Chrétiens de Candie voyant leurs justes demandes rejetées avec mépris par la Sublime Porte, et trouvant leur condition intolérable sous la domination Musulmane, ont pris les armes pour conquérir leur indépendance. Tout le monde sait que ce ne sont ni les menées des Comités formés en Grèce, ni l'ambition de cette Puissance, qui les ont conduits à cette extrémité. Ce sont plutôt les exactions et la mauvaise administration des Gouverneurs Turcs, les demi-mesures et le refus obstiné de la Sublime Porte de leur accorder les avantages que le Hatti-Houmayoun avait garanti à tous les Chrétiens, qui les y ont poussés.

Lorsque ces Crétois décidèrent, comme leurs frères et coreligionnaires les habitants du Royaume actuel de Grèce, et ceux de quelques Provinces de l'Empire Ottoman, l'avaient fait en 1821, de se révolter contre le Gouvernement Ottoman, ils manquaient presque de tout, et aucun Comité n'existait en Grèce. Ce n'est que plus tard que des secours leur sont arrivés de la Grèce comme de différentes autres parties du monde civilisé, et que des Comités d'assistance se sont formés dans le Royaume.

Dire que ces insulaires étaient contents de leur sort, qu'ils jouissaient de tous les bienfaits de la civilisation sous le Gouvernement paternel du Sultan, et que pourtant les Comités et les agents secrets de la Grèce avaient réussi à leur persuader de sacrifier ce bien-être, d'errer dans les montagnes à demi-nus et affamés, d'endurer toute sorte de privations et de souffrances, de s'expatrier en masse et de se faire sauter plutôt que de tomber entre les mains de l'armée Turque, c'est faire bon marché de la logique et de la vérité.

Puisque vous me dites, M. le Ministre, que l'histoire des nations civilisées ne fournit aucun exemple du mépris avec lequel le droit des gens a été traité par les dits Comités, permettez-moi de vous faire observer que les annales du monde civilisé offrent peu d'exemples d'une guerre aussi barbare que celle qui désole la malheureuse Ile de Candie. Les atrocités inouïes commises par une soldatesque fanatique sur des prisonniers et sur des créatures faibles et inoffensives ont excité la commisération des peuples et des Gouvernements.

En disant que "les bandits qui auraient été envoyés en Crète par les Comités avaient décidé par des menaces une partie de ces malheureux à émigrer en Grèce, où ils n'auraient

trouvé que misère et souffrance," vous oubliez que ce sont les bâtiments de guerre d'Angleterre, de France, de Russie, d'Autriche, de Prusse, d'Italie, qui en violant dans un but humanitaire un blocus fictif ont recueilli ces infortunés et les ont transportés en Grèce ; vous oubliez que ces réfugiés y ont trouvé une cordiale hospitalité, et que le Gouvernement du Roi continue de dépenser des sommes considérables pour leur entretien ; vous oubliez que cinq grandes Puissances ont donné itérativement à la Sublime Porte le conseil de faire constater par une enquête internationale les vœux des Crétois et de se conformer ensuite à ces vœux.

Il serait étrange que la Grèce et les Comités eussent pu exercer une influence sur les Grandes Puissances de l'Europe au point de les décider à faire une pareille démarche.

D'un autre côté, si le Gouvernement Ottoman était sûr de l'affection de ses sujets Chrétiens en Crète, "de l'attachement de l'immense majorité des habitants de l'île," ainsi que vous l'affirmez, pourquoi se serait-il refusé avec obstination à faire constater leurs vœux ?

L'histoire burinera les scènes du drame sanglant qui s'est déroulé en Crète, et dira si les Chrétiens, en prenant les armes contre un Gouvernement qu'ils considéraient comme étranger, ont obéi aux instigations venues du dehors, si c'est la première fois qu'ils se sont soulevés contre cette domination, et si leurs prétentions sont contraires aux maximes du droit des gens et du droit naturel.

Les cinq points de l'acceptation desquels la Sublime Porte fait une condition du maintien de relations de paix avec la Grèce sont :—1. Dispersion immédiate des bandes de volontaires dernièrement organisées dans différentes parties du Royaume et de toute autre bande à l'avenir. 2. Désarmement des corsaires "Enosis," "Crète," et "Panhellénion," ou, en tout cas, défense à ces corsaires d'entrer dans les ports Helléniques. 3. Autorisation aux émigrés Crétois de retourner dans leur pays et protection efficace de leur repatriement. 4. Puniton conformément aux lois de ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'aggression contre des militaires et des sujets Ottomans, et indemnisation des victimes de ces attentats. 5. Engagement de suivre désormais une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités existants et aux droits de gens.

Pour ce qui est au 1er et au 2me de ces points, je regrette, M. le Ministre, de n'avoir pas d'autres arguments que ceux contenus dans ma dernière note pour vous convaincre que les institutions du pays ne permettent pas au Gouvernement Royal d'enchaîner la liberté individuelle au profit d'une Puissance étrangère.

La Grèce ne saurait plus faire pour la Turquie qu'elle n'a fait pour d'autres Puissances. Dans les guerres qui ont eu lieu de nos jours en Europe et en Amérique, des volontaires Hellènes ont pris du service dans les armées belligérantes, et pourtant aucune réclamation de ce genre ne nous fut adressée. C'est que ces volontaires agissaient pour leur propre compte et ne pouvaient engager la responsabilité du Gouvernement Royal. En cela aucune innovation n'a eu lieu chez nous. Je vous ai déjà dit à plusieurs reprises que dans le long cours de l'insurrection de Candie des corps de volontaires s'y étaient rendus. La Sublime Porte a compris que le Gouvernement du Roi n'était pas armé par les lois du pays contre ces entreprises, et, par conséquent, elle n'a pas persisté dans ses réclamations. D'ailleurs, ce n'est pas seulement de la Grèce que des volontaires se sont rendus en Crète. A côté des Hellènes il y avait des Anglais, des Français, des Italiens, des Hongrois, des Américains, des Montenégriens.

"L'Enosis," la "Crète," et le "Panhellénion" ne sont point des corsaires armés dans nos ports. Ce sont des paquebots de la Compagnie Hellénique de Navigation à Vapeur qui font des voyages en Crète pour porter des vivres aux insurgés, tout en se livrant à des opérations de commerce. Si ces bateaux, dont l'un fait un service régulier de paquebot à l'intérieur du Royaume, sont pris en violant le blocus et en opposant de la résistance aux croiseurs de l'escadre Ottomane, ou en ayant un chargement considéré comme contrebande de guerre, ils peuvent être passibles de confiscation comme bonnes prises, suivant les prescriptions du droit maritime. Aucune loi du pays ne défend aux sujets Hellènes d'aller ravitailler, à leurs risques et périls, un port étranger bloqué. Je ne sache pas que les bateaux en question soient armés ; mais si par hasard ils le sont, il ne faut pas perdre de vue que tous les paquebots et même les grands bâtiments de commerce à voile portent ordinairement un certain nombre de pièces d'artillerie qui leur servent à se défendre en cas de danger.

Pour ce qui est du 3e point, je n'ai qu'à vous rappeler les observations contenues dans ma dernière note sur le nombre des émigrés repatriés par les soins de la Légation, et sur la protection qui leur a été toujours accordée par nos autorités. S'il me fallait produire une autre preuve des bonnes dispositions du Gouvernement Royal à ce sujet, je n'aurais qu'à citer le fait qu'après l'expédition de cette note et au moment où l'on annonçait de toutes parts que la Sublime Porte était décidée à rompre ses relations avec la Grèce, plus

de 200 réfugiés Crétois s'embarquaient au Pirée pour Candie sans être aucunement molestés.

Pour ce qui est du 4^e point, c'est avec étonnement que le Gouvernement du Roi apprend que des attentats auraient été commis contre des militaires et des sujets Ottomans dans le Royaume, et que ces attentats seraient restés impunis. Nous repoussons de toute notre force une semblable accusation. Si vous faites allusions à un soldat Albanais, qui se trouvant de passage l'année dernière à Syra, fut tué dans une querelle par un autre Albanais, je ne pense pas que ce soit là un fait pouvant motiver une réclamation de cette nature. Vous savez fort bien que les autorités de Syra prirent alors sans retard les mesures nécessaires pour l'arrestation du coupable, mais que celui-ci s'était évadé en Crète aussitôt la perpétration du crime. Toutes les informations vous avaient été données alors relativement aux procédés de nos autorités, et il ne résulte pas de la correspondance échangée à cette occasion que ces autorités eussent manqué à leur devoir.

Excepté cet attentat commis par un sujet Ottoman contre un autre sujet Ottoman, les sujets de la Sublime Porte ont joui sur le territoire Grec, comme tous les autres étrangers, de la plus complète sécurité.

Ce grief est tout aussi étrange que celui relatif à un de mes derniers discours à la Chambre, et aux paroles prononcées du haut de la tribune par un ancien Ministre touchant l'achat du vapeur "la Crète."

Je ne sais pas ce que d'anciens Ministres ont pu dire et quelle signification il faut attribuer aux paroles qu'ils auraient prononcées ; mais ce que je sais, c'est que le Cabinet actuel, désireux de maintenir des rapports de bonne harmonie avec la Sublime Porte, a fait preuve de la meilleure volonté. Vous vous rappelez quelle fermeté il a montrée dans la question de l'envoi de Députés Crétois. En ce qui concerne plus particulièrement les paroles que j'ai prononcées à la Chambre, je vous ai expliqué, dans un de nos entretiens, qu'elles n'avaient rien d'hostile à la Sublime Porte, qu'elles n'étaient que l'expression de notre opinion sur la solution possible de la question Crétoise, qu'il n'entrait pas dans les vues du Gouvernement Royal de détacher par la force Candie de l'Empire Ottoman, ainsi que son Excellence Sâvet Pacha s'en était plaint dans une dépêche dont vous m'aviez donné lecture, et que les annexions de territoire n'impliquent pas toujours la nécessité d'une guerre.

Pour ce qui est enfin du dernier point, celui relatif à l'engagement que le Gouvernement devrait prendre de suivre une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités et au droit des gens, je vous avoue, M. le Ministre, que je n'ai pas pu bien saisir le sens de ces mots.

Je voudrais savoir quel est le Traité que la Grèce aurait violé. Je ne parle plus des obligations du droit des gens, puisque j'ai suffisamment établi que le Gouvernement du Roi n'en a violé aucune.

Si quelqu'un a le droit de se plaindre de la non-exécution des Traités, sans doute c'est la Grèce. En dehors des difficultés de tous genres que nos nationaux rencontrent ordinairement dans l'Empire Ottoman pour leurs affaires et des mauvais traitements auxquels un grand nombre d'entre eux y sont souvent exposés, deux Conventions pour la répression du brigandage, qui infeste nos provinces limitrophes de la Turquie et qui nous expose à des dépenses extraordinaires, ont été conclues dans l'espace de dix ans, et pourtant la Sublime Porte ne s'est jamais décidée à mettre aucune de ces Conventions à exécution, malgré les vives instances du Gouvernement du Roi. La plupart des notes adressées par le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à la Légation Impériale n'ont pour objet que les encouragements donnés aux brigands par les troupes irrégulières chargées par la Sublime Porte de la garde des frontières, les méfaits commis dans nos provinces limitrophes par des bandes venant du territoire Ottoman, et la nécessité d'y mettre un terme par l'exécution de la Convention qui impose au Gouvernement Ottoman le devoir d'employer exclusivement sur toute la ligne frontière des troupes régulières au lieu des Albanais Irréguliers. Le Ministre du Roi à Constantinople y a appelé bien des fois la sérieuse attention du Gouvernement de la Sublime Porte, mais ses représentations n'ont pas eu un meilleur résultat.

Par ce seul exemple on voit que si nous voulions accumuler des griefs contre le Gouvernement Ottoman pour motiver une rupture, nous en aurions et de bien réels. Mais nous avons toujours pensé que les intérêts multiples des deux pays commandaient de maintenir des relations d'amitié et de bon voisinage.

Il résulte de ce qui précède, M. le Ministre, que rien ne justifie l'attitude que la Sublime Porte vient de prendre à notre égard, et qui pourrait engendrer des complications de la plus haute gravité pour elle-même aussi bien que pour la Grèce. Quelques-unes de vos réclamations, comme par exemple le repatriement des réfugiés, la protection des sujets Ottomans en Grèce, le respect des Traités et l'observation de la neutralité du Gouvernement Royal dans la lutte de Candie, n'ont jamais été un sujet de discussion ou d'hésitation

pour ce Gouvernement. Les autres ne reposent que sur des données vagues et erronées, ou sont inadmissibles par leur nature.

Mais la Sublime Porte est décidée à rompre les relations diplomatiques et commerciales avec la Grèce. Nous le regrettons vivement, mais nous n'y voyons pas de remède. Ce que nous regrettons davantage c'est de voir que votre Gouvernement, en prenant une mesure aussi grave, ne s'est pas inspiré des idées qui tendent à prévaloir aujourd'hui dans les pays du monde civilisé. Ainsi il est aujourd'hui admis dans le code international que l'on devrait chercher à atténuer, autant que possible, les calamités de la guerre, et surtout à éviter d'en étendre les effets immédiats aux personnes privées.

Dans les guerres qui ont eu lieu en Europe en 1859 et en 1866, les sujets des Puissances belligérantes n'ont point été expulsés de leurs territoires respectifs.

La Sublime Porte elle-même, en d'autres circonstances, a donné des délais de plusieurs mois aux sujets des Puissances avec lesquelles elle s'est trouvée en guerre, pour le règlement de leurs affaires. En obligeant maintenant nos nationaux à quitter son territoire dans le délai de quinze jours, en fermant ses ports à nos bâtiments de commerce, et en démentant ainsi la modération dont elle se vante, elle veut évidemment causer des pertes considérables à des individus qui n'ont d'autre tort que celui d'être des Hellènes. C'est d'autant plus déplorable et injuste que tous ces individus ont contribué par leur négoce et leur industrie à l'accroissement de la richesse publique de l'Empire Ottoman.

Fidèle aux principes des institutions nationales du pays, le Gouvernement du Roi ne suivra pas un exemple aussi contraire à l'humanité et aux idées du siècle.

En renvoyant les Consuls Ottomans résidant en Grèce, à la suite de la mesure prise à l'égard de nos Consuls en Turquie par la Sublime Porte, le Gouvernement du Roi ne se propose point d'expulser de son territoire les sujets Ottomans.

Le monde civilisé jugera de quel côté est la modération.

Comme vous m'avez fait connaître que, passé le délai de cinq jours, vous quitterez la capitale, j'ai donné l'ordre de tenir à votre disposition les passeports nécessaires pour vous et pour le personnel de la Légation Impériale. En même temps je viens d'inviter le Ministre du Roi à Constantinople à quitter cette capitale.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 64.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Extract.)

Syra, December 6, 1868.

"ENOSIS" left Syra last night, having mounted the two Armstrong guns. Besides that "Enosis" decks were not fitted for them, parts of their carriages were wanting, to say nothing of sights, and scales elevation according to distance; and had Mr. Smith completed the carriages and laid the brass segments on the decks, it would have been too complicated for the Greeks, so he mounted them on pivots, and before starting they must needs try them here in the harbour, and without seeing that the gun was so secured so as not to fly from the pivot, they loaded it with a full charge and shot at its highest elevation; so the gun jumped out of its place, and could do nothing till Mr. Smith went on board to put all to rights, and explain what a child almost should have known; they fired two or three more shots (where they struck, nobody knows), and went away to Crete, thinking now they knew all about the guns. I do not know where "Enosis" is gone to land, but I doubt if they knew Admiral Hobart was in Cretan waters.

Inclosure 3 in No. 64.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Capitaine De Meyer.

M. le Commandant,

"Hudavendikiar," 16 Décembre, 1868.

COMME vous avez bien voulu m'informer ce matin que vous vouliez agir d'intermédiaire entre moi et les autorités Grecques, je viens vous prier de vouloir bien me faire avoir une réponse à la lettre ci-jointe, qui j'espère aura un bon effet, comme je veux éviter, autant que faire se peut, le commencement des hostilités.

Tout en vous remerciant d'avance, veuillez, &c.

(Signé)

AUGUSTE HOBART.

Inclosure 4 in No. 64.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to the Captain of the "Hellas."

Monsieur,

"Hudavendikiar," ce 16 Décembre, 1868.

J'ETAIS bien content de voir aujourd'hui flotter le pavillon de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, attendu que j'ai suivi ici un navire qui a brisé le droit des gens, et d'après moi a commis un acte de piraterie en faisant feu sur ma frégate après que j'avais fait tirer à blanc pour le forcer à "stopper." Je serais content de voir (comme ce navire s'est réfugié dans un port Grec, où les autorités ne pouvaient pas le saisir) si vous voudriez vous charger d'arrêter ce navire, auquel cas je serais satisfait.

Je considère cette affaire complètement séparée des regrettables divergences entre la Turquie et la Grèce, et veux espérer qu'entre vous et moi, comme officiers de marine, il n'existe pas de différence d'opinion.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) AUGUSTE HOBART.

No. 65.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 28.)

(Extract.)

Paris, December 27, 1868.

EARLY on the day before yesterday, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I read to the Marquis de Lavalette your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd instant, respecting the proposed Conference on the Turco-Greek question, and placed a copy of it in his Excellency's hands.

After some conversation with me on the subject, M. de Lavalette said that he would take the despatch at once to the Emperor, and would see me again afterwards.

In the evening, M. de Lavalette told me that he should without delay send in the usual form, through the French Ambassador in London, his answer to your Lordship's despatch. He should state the views of the Government of the Emperor on the questions you had raised respecting the previous definition of the attributes of the Conference, and he was confident that they would be found to be in entire accordance with those of Her Majesty's Government.

There was a special point, however, on which he was anxious to know, without delay, the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, namely, the admission of Greece to the Conference. He gathered from your Lordship's despatch that the propriety of allowing to Greece some part in the proceedings had suggested itself to Her Majesty's Government. The Emperor, M. de Lavalette went on to say, was decidedly of opinion that it would not be advisable that, while Turkey was admitted, Greece should be altogether excluded. There were, indeed, reasons of considerable weight which might be alleged against the claim of Greece to be represented; but they were reasons which rested in part upon diplomatic forms and precedents, and in part upon considerations which could not be readily understood without a careful examination of the question. The common sense view of the question was that Greece, as a party concerned, ought to have a full hearing; public opinion, without weighing nice distinctions, would be formed by the dictates of common sense; and much of the benefit to be derived from the Conference would be lost if the fairness of its proceedings, and the justness of its decisions, were not apparent to all.

M. de Lavalette would, therefore, he said, suggest that the Plenipotentiaries of the Powers who were Parties to the Treaty of Paris should meet in Conference, and should agree to invite immediately a Representative of Greece to be present at their sittings, and take part in the discussions with a "voix consultative."

No. 66.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1868.

THE Turkish Chargé d'Affaires read to me to-day a telegram from his Government, dated the 25th instant, of which the substance is as follows:—

After alluding to the moderation shown by the Porte, and the necessity under which it laboured to have recourse to the measures that it had adopted, and which it could no

longer have delayed without danger, the telegram goes on to say that the mere rupture of diplomatic relations would not have sufficed to avert such danger. Having no desire for war the Porte had confined itself to the expulsion of Hellenic subjects, and even as regards that measure, had in some degree modified its severity. It had extended the period at which it was to take effect; it had granted facilities for merchant-ships; but beyond this it could not go without utter ruin.

The Porte sees no good in a Conference: it considers that the only means of preventing a conflict are either to bring to bear strong pressure on the Greek Government, or to leave Turkey to come singly to an understanding with it. The Porte has no desire to provoke war, but neither will it refuse it if offered by the Greeks.

At all events the Porte can say nothing as to the Conference without having before it a fixed and definite programme, in which there must be no question of any concession on the part of Turkey in regard to the five points which it has laid down, and which express within the narrowest limits what is requisite for its security and for its dignity. To ask that the Porte should give up any of these points would, in effect, be to leave Greece free to continue its aggressive acts in time of peace, inconsistent as such acts would be with international law, which must be held to override municipal law; while, on the other hand, the Porte requires nothing from Greece incompatible with the interests or with the dignity of that country.

Moreover, the Porte cannot assent to any question whatever relating to its internal affairs or to Crete being discussed in Conference. If it were attempted to do so, the Ottoman Plenipotentiary would immediately withdraw.

In a word, the Porte will not take part in any Conference in which it would be sought to modify the conditions that it has laid down, or to enter upon questions bearing on the territory or administration of the Ottoman Empire.

I observed to M. Musurus that the telegram which he had just read, amounted, although not in express terms, yet virtually, to a refusal to attend the Conference, but I hoped that such would not be the ultimate decision of the Porte, whose object must be to avoid war by an arrangement that should be binding on Greece to abstain from those acts of aggression against which the Porte justly complained; and that such an arrangement might reasonably be expected from the Conference, before which the Porte would have ample opportunity to state its grievances against Greece.

M. Musurus replied that for the last two years the Porte had appealed in various ways to the Great Powers of Europe, and had besought them to put a check upon the proceedings of the Greek Government in favour of the Cretan insurrection; but that these appeals had been made in vain, and that Turkey was now compelled by her dignity and her interests to assert her authority as an independent Power, and to put an end to a state of things that had become intolerable.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 67.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve the language which you held to M. Delyanni, as reported in your despatch of the 16th instant, on the occasion of communicating to him the warning contained in Lord Stanley's telegram of the 7th of December, in regard to the serious danger in which the conduct of the Greek Government towards Turkey was likely to involve Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 68.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the course you adopted, as reported in your despatch of the 16th instant, with reference to the proceedings of Hobart Pasha in connection with the blockade-runner "Enosis."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 69.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve the course which you propose to take, as reported in your despatch of the 17th instant, with reference to Hobart Pasha's proposal for the trial of the "Enosis."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 70.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 16, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of the ultimatum addressed by the Turkish Minister at Athens to the Greek Government, and of the note of Safvet Pasha to the Greek Minister here, forwarding his passports upon its refusal being notified.

The Greek Consuls will, I understand, be allowed to remain during the fifteen days granted to their countrymen before leaving the country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Photiades Bey to M. Delyanni, December 11, 1868.

[See No. 48.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

*Safvet Pasha to M. Delyanni.**Sublime Porte, le 16 Décembre, 1868.*

LE Gouvernement Hellénique ayant répondu par le refus aux cinq conditions que la Sublime Porte avait proposée à son acceptation par le canal de son Représentant à Athènes, les relations diplomatiques et commerciales viennent d'être interrompues entre la Turquie et la Grèce.

En conséquence, j'ai le regret de vous transmettre ci-joint vos passeports, ainsi que ceux des personnes de la Légation et de la Chancellerie Hellénique à Constantinople. Les Consuls Grecs dans l'Empire Ottoman devront également quitter l'Empire; des instructions ont été adressées aux Gouvernements-Généraux des Provinces pour leur retirer leur exequatur. De même tous les sujets Hellènes doivent dans le délai de quinze jours, à partir d'aujourd'hui, quitter le territoire Ottoman. Ce délai commencera à courir pour les sujets Hellènes se trouvant dans les provinces, à partir du jour de l'arrivée de cet ordre aux autorités locales. Le Gouvernement Hellénique est également informé que l'entrée des ports Ottomans se trouve interdite au pavillon Hellénique.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) SAFVET.

No. 71.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which I have received from the Greek Minister here, proposing on his departure to leave the protection of Greek subjects and interests to the Representatives of the Protecting Powers.

I likewise transmit a copy of a note from General Ignatieff, suggesting the course he would propose to follow if the French Ambassador and myself agreed to accept the protection.

Upon consulting M. Bourée we found ourselves both strongly averse to accepting any such joint protectorate over the Greek subjects, the Porte having already caused it to be understood that they would themselves protect such as might be allowed to remain.

It appeared, moreover, both to M. Bourée and to myself inadvisable to accept this duty as in any way resulting from the position of the Protecting Governments of Greece. I consequently declined the request by the note herewith inclosed, M. Bourée having written in a very similar sense.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 71.

M. T. Delyanni to Mr. Elliot.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Pera, le $\frac{5}{17}$ Décembre, 1868.

J'AI l'honneur de faire connaître à votre Excellence que la Sublime Porte Ottomane m'ayant communiqué, le $\frac{4}{16}$ Décembre, que les relations diplomatiques et commerciales entre la Turquie et la Grèce ont été interrompues, que tous les sujets Hellènes demeurant et domiciliés à Constantinople doivent quitter cette capitale dans le délai de quinze jours, à dater du $\frac{4}{16}$ Décembre, et que l'entrée dans les ports Ottomans est défendu au pavillon Hellénique, je dois partir pour la Grèce par le premier bateau des Messageries Impériales de France, en partance pour Pirée, avec les employés de la Légation.

Avant de quitter Constantinople, je me fais un devoir d'exprimer à votre Excellence combien j'ai à me louer des relations agréables que j'ai été à même d'entretenir avec elle pendant la courte durée de ma mission, et de lui annoncer à la fois que, à défaut d'une autorité quelconque Hellénique à Constantinople, je crois devoir placer mes nationaux et les affaires Helléniques en général sous la protection de leurs Excellences les Représentants des trois Grandes Puissances qui ont garanti l'indépendance de la Grèce, et qui n'ont jamais cessé de lui témoigner leur bienveillance.

Dans la conviction que votre Excellence voudra bien accueillir cette demande avec bienveillance, et s'entendre à ce sujet avec ses deux autres collègues, je la prie d'agréer, d'avance mes remerciements et ma reconnaissance, et saisis, &c.

(Signé) T. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 71.

General Ignatieff to Mr. Elliot.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Constantinople, le $\frac{6}{18}$ Décembre, 1868.

M. DELYANNI vient de s'adresser à moi pour me confier, en même tems qu'à votre Excellence et à M. l'Ambassadeur de France, la protection des intérêts et des sujets Hellènes, aussi longtemps qu'il s'en trouverait dans l'Empire Ottoman.

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre, M. l'Ambassadeur, copie de la réponse que je fais à cette demande.

Dans la supposition que votre Excellence voudra bien l'accueillir également, je viens lui proposer d'instituer à cet effet une Commission Commerciale Mixte, composée des Délégués des trois Ambassades, et de charger en outre les Drogmans respectifs d'assister aux travaux de la Commission, qui doit se réunir à la Sublime Porte pour liquider les affaires des sujets Hellènes.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) N. IGNATIEFF.

Inclosure 3 in No. 71.

General Ignatieff to M. Delyanni.

Le $\frac{6}{18}$ Décembre, 1868.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la lettre que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser pour me confier, en même temps que leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs de la

Grande Bretagne et de France, la protection des intérêts et des sujets Hellènes aussi longtemps qu'il s'en trouverait sur le territoire de l'Empire Ottoman.

Tout disposé pour ma part à accueillir votre démarche en tant que mes collègues voudront y répondre, je vais leur proposer de concerter les mesures qu'il convient de prendre à cet égard.

Inclosure 4 in No. 71.

Mr. Elliot to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Constantinople, le 18 Décembre, 1868.

J'AI l'honneur d'accuser la réception de la lettre de votre Excellence, en date d'hier, me communiquant son intention, en quittant Constantinople, de mettre les intérêts et les sujets Helléniques sous la protection des Représentants des Puissances Protectrices.

Ne reconnaissant pas que ce devoir découle de la position des Puissances, comme garantes de l'indépendance de la Grèce, je regrette, M. le Ministre, qu'il me soit impossible dans les circonstances actuelles d'accueillir la proposition que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser.

Je prie, &c.
(Signé) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 72.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 18, 1868.

YOUR Lordship will already have received from other sources an authentic account of the proceedings of Admiral Hobart in regard to the Greek vessel "Enosis," and I therefore confine myself to inclosing copies of the correspondence between that officer and the Nomarch of Syra, and of two statements made by the Commander of the blockade runner.

The question as to the distance from land at which the occurrence took place is one upon which it will not be easy to arrive at any conclusive result, but the declaration of Admiral Hobart, that it was in reply to a blank shot that the "Enosis" answered with round shot, will not be shaken by the improbable assertion of the Greek Commander that the Turkish cruisers had at once begun firing shot and shell.

I would beg to call your Lordship's attention to the statement of the Commander of the "Enosis," that he had carried to Crete an expedition of 900 men, with two guns and ammunition; and I would submit that no more complete justification could be found for the recent measures of the Ottoman Government than is afforded by this evidence of the scale upon which the aggressive proceedings of Greece are being carried out.

A letter which I had this morning received from Crete, written before the arrival of the expedition, represents the pacification as almost complete; but it now remains to be seen what amount of fresh vitality will have been infused by it into the insurrection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 72.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to M. Dracopoulo.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 60.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 72.

M. Dracopoulo to Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 60.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 72.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to M. Dracopoulos.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 60.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 72.

Report of Captain Sourmeli.

[See Inclosure 6 in No. 60.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 72.

Protest of the Captain of the "Enosis."

[See Inclosure 5 in No. 60.]

No. 73.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th instant, giving an account of a conversation which you had with M. de Lavalette on the question of the proposed Conference on Turco-Greek Affairs.

The French Ambassador called upon me to-day, but it appeared that he had not yet received any further instructions on the subject from his Government.

When suggesting in my despatch of the 23rd instant the points on which it seemed necessary, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, that the different Powers who were to be represented in the Conference should have a previous understanding among themselves, I did not think it necessary to consider what course the Powers should take in order to enforce their decision, or even to give effect to them in the event of both or either of the litigant parties demurring, or signifying their willingness, but pleading their inability, to comply with the recommendations of the Conference.

The telegram from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople of the 26th instant, of which your Excellency has received a copy, appears, however, to Her Majesty's Government to render it necessary to consider this point, for the Porte it would seem, is prepared to make its assent to the matters being considered in a Conference, subject to certain conditions, from some of which it declares its determination not to depart.

Now it appears to Her Majesty's Government that the Powers should at the outset carefully guard themselves against taking any active part beyond the mere suggestion of bases of reconciliation, in the settlement of the dispute between Turkey and Greece. Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that it should be clearly understood among the Members of the Conference, that their recommendations are in no case to be supported by any intervention, whether requested by or imposed on either or both parties, on the part of their naval forces.

I need scarcely say that Her Majesty's Government cannot contemplate the employment of coercive measures to enforce against either party the recommendations of the Conference. If those recommendations are not accepted by both, the only alternative which Her Majesty's Government can admit is, that the Powers will have no other course open to them but to withdraw from further interposition in the dispute.

This, indeed, is consistent with the principle of the recommendations of the Paris Conference of 1856, which merely expressed the hope that litigant parties would seek the good offices of a friendly Power for the adjustment of disputes between them, but studiously omitted all allusion to any penalty attaching to the refusal either to adopt that course, or to listen to the suggestions of the friendly Powers.

Her Majesty's late Government, as your Excellency is well aware, have constantly declined to take any part in the repatriation of Cretan refugees. Her Majesty's present Advisers do not feel disposed to depart from that policy, and it appears to them that if a reconciliation is brought about by the intervention of the Powers between Turkey and Greece, there can be no occasion for any Power (and all therefore might agree to renounce doing so) to intervene in order to convey back to Crete such refugees as might desire to return. If unmolested by the Greeks, the refugees might find their way back again to their homes, and at all events the Porte has shown itself ready to assist their return, and

the arrangements for effecting it will, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be much better left to themselves.

But if Her Majesty's Government think that in both the cases to which I have adverted, the naval interference of the Powers would be open to objection and uncalled for, they are no less strongly of opinion that the Powers should not step in to aid the efforts of the Porte to reduce the insurgents in Crete, if, notwithstanding the Conference, the insurrection should continue, by assisting to defeat attempts to introduce supplies into the island by means of so-called blockade-runners. Such an intervention would not only amount to a departure from the neutrality in the Cretan struggle, which the Powers have professed to maintain, and which, after the Conference, it would be still more incumbent on them to observe, but, if Greece honestly fulfilled any engagements which it might have entered into with the Conference to abstain from future acts of provocation towards Turkey, it would be altogether unnecessary; for it has been from Greek ports that the blockade-runners have drawn the supplies of arms, ammunition, and provisions, which they have introduced into Crete, and it is on Greek territory that levies of volunteers have been made, by whose active hostilities alone the insurgents have so long been able to maintain themselves against the forces of the Porte.

I should wish your Excellency to call M. de Lavalette's attention to these points without delay, for Her Majesty's Government attach to them great importance, and however reluctant they might be to stand aloof from a Conference having for its object to prevent war between Turkey and Greece, it would be impossible for them to take part in it, unless assured that it would not be likely to place them in a position in which they would have to choose between withdrawing from the Conference, or declining, as they could not but do, to be a party to carrying out its decision.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 74.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1868.

ALTHOUGH Her Majesty's Government trust that the Porte will not decline to take part in the Conference which it is proposed to hold in Paris with a view to the re-establishment of friendly relations with Greece, yet, having reference to the communication made to me by M. Musurus, of which I have given you an account in my despatch of the 28th, I have to instruct you to state to the Porte that Her Majesty's Government consider that a due regard for its own interest should induce it to accept, without hesitation, the invitation that is made to it.

Her Majesty's Government believe that none of the Powers are disposed to extend the range of the deliberations of the Conference beyond the immediate object for which it is convened, and that their efforts will be confined to endeavouring to induce the Greek Government to satisfy the demands of the Porte as set forth in the ultimatum which it has addressed to Greece, and so to secure Turkey from a renewal of proceedings of which she has complained.

The Powers trust that, by the intervention of the Conference, the breaking out of hostilities between Turkey and Greece may be prevented; and they have no desire to enter upon any questions which would appear to the Porte to affect her territorial rights, or administrative freedom.

Her Majesty's Government understand that the French Government have directed their Ambassador at Constantinople to make a similar communication to the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 75.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 30, 1868.

THE French Ambassador has communicated to me a despatch from M. de Lavalette, dated the 28th instant, in reply to my despatch of the 23rd, which I had instructed your Excellency to communicate to him.

In this despatch M. de Lavalette says, that the Government of the Emperor entirely concurs in the estimate formed by the British Government of the attitude of Greece towards Turkey, and of the dangers which, if it were maintained, it is calculated to create; and considers, in like manner, that the Greek Government cannot plead the difficulties of its internal situation as exempting it from the necessity of observing its international obligations.

Admitting, with the British Government, that the state of affairs calls for and justifies the intervention of the Powers, parties to the Treaty of 1856, the Government of the Emperor concurs in its opinion as to the manner in which the Conference should be composed, and as to the special objects to which its attention should be exclusively directed.

The Government of the Emperor considers the participation of Turkey in the Conference to be indispensable, inasmuch as its convocation mainly, if not entirely, results from antecedent transactions in which she took part; but, on the other hand, it is of opinion that it would not be possible to exclude Greece from it. But to get over the difficulty of form which would be opposed to the admission of this latter Power, the Government of the Emperor had proposed, and with the exception of Russia, all the other Powers seemed inclined to agree, that Greece should only appear "à titre consultatif."

The Government of the Emperor was, equally with that of Her Majesty, determined that no question foreign to that which had led to the Conference should come under discussion, and the invitation which it would address to the Powers to meet in Conference will distinctly set forth that the sole object for which it is convoked is to discover the means of allaying the difference between Turkey and Greece, and to examine to what extent the demands set forth in the Turkish ultimatum should be complied with. Thus, any proposal by which, as tending to interfere with the internal administration of Turkey and of the rights of the Sultan over his subjects, the principle of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire would be assailed, would be at the outset excluded from discussion.

The first point to which the attention of the Conference would be directed would be the maintenance of the *status quo* between Turkey and Greece until the close of the Conference.

The Conference would then proceed to inquire into the Turkish demands, with reference to their bearing on questions of right, and on the interests of peace in the East.

Such is the general tenor of the despatch which the French Ambassador communicated to me; and without specifically adverting to other points in M. de Lavalette's despatch, it is sufficient for the present purpose that I should authorize your Excellency to make known to M. de Lavalette that, with the distinct understanding that no other question shall be mooted in the Conference save that of a settlement of the difference between Turkey and Greece, and that no proposal shall be brought forward affecting the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, or involving interference in the internal administration of Turkey, or with the rights of the Sultan over his subjects, Her Majesty's Government agree to be represented in the Conference, and will in due time furnish your Excellency with the necessary authority and instructions to enable you to take part in its deliberations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 76.

M. de Lavalette to Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, December 31.)

Prince,

Paris, le 28 Décembre, 1868.

L'AMBASSADEUR de la Reine m'a communiqué la dépêche ci-jointe qui lui a été adressée, le 23 de ce mois, par Lord Clarendon. Le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique expose le point de vue auquel le Cabinet de Londres envisage, tout à la fois, et le différend Turco-Grec et la combinaison proposée en vue de l'aplanir, et exprime, en même temps, le désir de connaître exactement, à cet égard, la manière de voir du Gouvernement de l'Empereur. Bien que les explications échangées entre Lord Lyons et moi aient déjà fait pressentir au Gouvernement Britannique qu'aucune divergence d'opinion ne peut s'élever entre les deux Cours, je crois utile de vous mettre en mesure de fournir vous-même à Lord Clarendon les éclaircissements les plus complets.

Le Gouvernement de l'Empereur partage, de tous points, les appréciations émises par le Cabinet Anglais sur l'attitude de la Grèce à l'égard de la Turquie, ainsi que sur les

dangers qu'elle serait de nature à créer en se prolongeant. Nous pensons, également, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait exciper des difficultés résultant de la situation intérieure de son pays pour se soustraire aux obligations internationales que lui imposent les principes du droit des gens. En reconnaissant enfin, avec Lord Clarendon, qu'une telle situation appelle et justifie l'intervention des Puissances Signataires du Traité de 1856, nous n'hésitons pas à partager sa manière de voir quant à la composition de la future Conférence, et au but spécial qui devrait être exclusivement assigné à ses travaux.

Nous croyons indispensable que la Turquie prenne part à une réunion qui trouve sa principale, sinon son unique raison d'être, dans les actes antérieurs auxquels cette Puissance a participé. Nous ne pensons pas, d'un autre côté, qu'il soit possible d'en exclure la Grèce. L'admission d'un Représentant du Gouvernement Hellénique ne soulève qu'une difficulté de forme. Nous avons proposé, en ce qui nous concerne, qu'il y figurât à titre consultatif, et à l'exception du Cabinet de St. Pétersbourg, qui manifeste encore à cet égard quelque hésitation, toutes les Puissances paraissent accepter cette combinaison.

Quant à la matière même des travaux de la Conférence, nous ne sommes pas moins résolus que le Cabinet de Londres à en écarter toute question étrangère à celle qui aura motivé la réunion des Plénipotentiaires. La communication que le Gouvernement de l'Empereur a l'intention d'adresser aux différentes Cours afin d'obtenir leur assentiment à la proposition d'une Conférence déterminera les limites dans lesquelles devra se renfermer la délibération. Les Plénipotentiaires auront uniquement à rechercher les moyens d'apaiser le différend qui s'est élevé entre la Turquie et la Grèce, et à examiner dans quelle mesure il y a lieu de faire droit aux réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum du Gouvernement Ottoman. Tel est le but unique et précis tracé par le programme qui sera soumis à l'acceptation des Puissances comme base de l'entente commune, et ainsi se trouve exclue d'avance, de droit comme de fait, toute proposition tendant à porter atteinte au principe de l'intégrité de l'Empire Ottoman, ou constituant une ingérence dans l'administration intérieure de la Turquie et les rapports du Sultan avec ses sujets.

L'objet de la réunion se trouvant ainsi rigoureusement défini, la marche que la Conférence aurait à suivre dans ses travaux nous paraît indiquée par la nature même des choses.

Les Plénipotentiaires auraient à se préoccuper, tout d'abord, des mesures qui permettraient à la Conférence d'atteindre son but en assurant à ses délibérations le calme et la liberté nécessaires. Leur premier soin serait donc de s'entendre pour que le *statu quo* fût maintenu entre la Turquie et la Grèce jusqu'au terme de leurs travaux.

Après l'adoption de ces mesures préalables, et, en quelque sorte, conservatoires, la Conférence aborderait le fond même de la question, c'est-à-dire, l'examen, au double point de vue du droit et des intérêts de la paix en Orient, des demandes consignées dans l'ultimatum de la Porte.

Les explications qui précèdent, en constatant l'entière conformité de vues qui existe entre le Cabinet de Londres et nous, suffiront, je l'espère, pour amener Lord Clarendon à donner son assentiment définitif à la seule combinaison qui puisse conjurer les graves et prochaines complications dont l'Angleterre n'a pas à se préoccuper moins que nous.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) LAVALETTE.

(Translation.)

Prince,

Paris, December 28, 1868.

THE Queen's Ambassador has communicated to me the accompanying despatch, which was addressed to him on the 23rd instant by Lord Clarendon. Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State sets forth the view which the Cabinet of London takes both of the Turco-Greek difficulty, and of the combination proposed with a view to its solution; and he at the same time expresses a wish to be made precisely acquainted with the views of the Emperor's Government on this head. Although, from the explanations entered into between Lord Lyons and myself, the British Government must have already foreseen that no difference of opinion can arise between the two Courts, I think it desirable to enable you yourself to furnish Lord Clarendon with the fullest explanations.

The Government of the Emperor shares on all points the opinions expressed by the English Cabinet respecting the attitude of Greece with regard to Turkey, as also respecting the dangers which this attitude, if protracted, would be likely to create. We also consider that the Hellenic Government cannot allege difficulties resulting from the internal situation of their country, in order to withdraw from international obligation imposed upon them by the principles of the law of nations. Whilst agreeing also with

Lord Clarendon that such a situation calls for and justifies the intervention of the Powers who signed the Treaty of 1856, we do not hesitate to share his opinion as to the composition of the future Conference, and the special object to which its labours should be exclusively directed.

We consider it indispensable that Turkey should take part in a meeting, the principal, if not the only reason, for which arises from previous acts in which that Power participated. We do not, on the other hand, think that it is possible to exclude Greece. The admission of a Representative of the Hellenic Government raises merely a question of form. We have proposed, as far as we are concerned, that he should be present with a consultative voice; and with the exception of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, which still evinces some hesitation in this point, all the Powers seem to accept this solution.

With regard to the subject matter of the labours of the Conference, we are not less determined than the Cabinet of London to exclude from it every question foreign to that one which will have led to the meeting of the Plenipotentiaries. The communication which the Emperor's Government intends to address to the different Courts, in order to obtain their assent to the proposal of a Conference, will lay down the limits to be assigned to its deliberations. The Plenipotentiaries will only have to inquire into the means of settling the difference which has arisen between Turkey and Greece, and to examine how far the demands made in the ultimatum of the Ottoman Government ought to be justified. Such is the sole and exact object set forth in the programme which will be submitted for the acceptance of the Powers as the basis of a common understanding, and every proposition tending to affect the principle of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, or constituting an interference in the internal administration of Turkey and the relations of the Sultan with his subjects, will thus *de jure* and *de facto* be excluded by anticipation.

The object of the meeting being thus strictly defined, the course to be pursued by the Conference in its labours seems to us to be indicated by the very nature of the circumstances.

It would be the business of the Plenipotentiaries first to consider what measures would allow the Conference to attain its object by securing to its deliberations the necessary calmness and freedom. Their first care should, therefore, be to come to an understanding that the *status quo* should be maintained between Turkey and Greece until the close of their labours.

After the adoption of these preliminary and to some extent conservatory measures, the Conference should approach the fundamental part of the question, viz., the examination of the demands made in the ultimatum of the Porte, in the two-fold aspect of the question of right and the interests of peace in the East.

The above explanations, which prove the complete concurrence of views existing between the Cabinet of London and ourselves, will, I hope, be sufficient to induce Lord Clarendon to give his final assent to the only combination which can obviate the grave and imminent complications which must occupy the attention of England no less than our own.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) LAVALETTE.

No. 77.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 31, 1868.

THE Russian Ambassador called here to-day. His Excellency had received a telegram from Prince Gortchakoff, stating that Her Majesty's Government might rely upon the complete impartiality of Russia in the Conference, and that the facts and evidence brought forward by either the Turkish or Greek Government would be considered in a spirit of justice, and with a view to an equitable and speedy conclusion.

Baron Brunnow again assured me that his Government had no wish or intention to enlarge the discussion, which ought to be strictly confined to the existing dispute, and the best mode of bringing it to a termination.

I assured Baron Brunnow of the satisfaction with which this information would be received by Her Majesty's Government.

Prince Gortchakoff's telegram likewise contained an expression of regret that the Greek Representative would only be admitted to have a "*voix consultative*" at the Conference, and of hope that in this arrangement there was no intention to humiliate Greece.

I said that, as far as Her Majesty's Government were concerned, there was not the smallest intention to humiliate Greece, and I thought I could say the same for the French Government, with whom the proposal had originated. It had probably been thought necessary to limit the number of Representatives at the Conference, and that consequently the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris would alone be invited to attend. Greece was not one of those Powers, and could not therefore, in that capacity, be asked to send a Representative. A different form of invitation would, therefore, be addressed to Athens, but it was manifestly impossible that the business of the Conference should be carried on in the absence of a Greek Representative, who would have the fullest opportunity for stating his case.

No. 78.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 20, 1868.

THE inconveniences that would result to British subjects and others by the sudden closing of the Turkish ports against Greek vessels, which might have taken in their cargoes previous to the rupture, induced me to draw the attention of the Porte to the position in which such vessels would find themselves upon arriving at their port of destination.

The Sultan's Government readily took the subject into consideration, and decided that all Greek vessels which might be loading in Europe before the rupture, should be exceptionally allowed to enter the Ottoman ports to discharge their cargo.

The fifteen days' delay from the notification of the rupture of relations which was allowed to Hellenic subjects, applies equally to the Greek shipping.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 79.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 20, 1868.

THE expulsion of the Greek subjects will extend to Egypt as well as to the other parts of the Empire.

With regard to Servia and the Danubian Principalities, the Porte has confined itself to intimating to those Governments the measures which it has been thought necessary to adopt, leaving them free to act as they think proper in the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 80.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, December 22, 1868.

ALTHOUGH the period of fifteen days allowed for the departure of the Greek subjects appeared to me extremely short, both on account of the inconvenience it would entail, and because it left little time for finding means of warding off a final rupture, the Turkish Government had so evidently taken a decision not to allow themselves to be swayed from their purpose by foreign advice, that I abstained at first from urging a prolongation.

I afterwards pointed out that the time allowed was so short that it would be absolutely impossible to arrange many of the matters of business pending between Greeks and Turks or foreign subjects.

Aali Pasha at once recognized the expediency of acting as I suggested, and the additional delay (of the exact length of which I am not able to speak with certainty, though I believe it will be three weeks) was resolved upon, and announced.

Your Lordship will, I do not doubt, recognize the importance of inducing the Porte to proceed with all moderation; but the feeling at present prevailing is that the national honour and interests have suffered too materially by the continued deference to the counsel

of foreign Powers, for it to be possible any longer to show the same facility; and this sentiment pervading the public, no less than the Government, renders it for the moment a matter of much delicacy to give advice in such a manner as to afford a prospect of it being entertained.

No. 81.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, December 22, 1868.

M. DELYANNI, the Greek Minister here, whose official functions ceased upon receiving his passports nearly a week ago, proposes to quit Constantinople by to-morrow's packet.

I have within the last few days had two conversations with him, in which I expressed my anxiety to contribute in any way in my power to prevent the present state of things from being protracted, or from becoming aggravated.

Without dissembling my opinion that his Government was responsible for the threatening aspect of affairs, I assured him I should be always glad to exert at the Porte any influence I might possess, if I saw the possibility of bringing about an understanding; and I, therefore, especially wished to learn from him which of the Turkish demands he regarded as of a nature that could not be accepted by the Greek Government.

I altogether failed in my endeavours to make M. Delyanni point out any part of the Turkish demands which they might be called upon to withdraw as exceeding what they were entitled to require, and I learn from my Russian colleague that he also has been equally unsuccessful, M. Delyanni confining himself to the complaint that, having submitted so long to the encouragement given by Greece to the insurrection, the Turkish Government should at last have resorted to such stringent measures.

His language was the fullest confirmation of Mr. Erskine's opinion that, up to the very moment of the rupture, the Greeks refused to entertain the belief that any aggression on their part would be seriously taken up by the Porte.

No. 82.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 22, 1868.

IT was generally believed here yesterday that an authority to sail under the Russian flag was being indiscriminately granted to all Greek vessels.

General Ignatieff assures me that there is no sort of foundation for this report, and that Russian papers will be given to no vessels which do not strictly come within the usual regulations.

Some sales, real or fictitious, are taking place between Greek and Russian owners, and no doubt some vessels will fraudulently obtain the shelter of the Russian flag; but General Ignatieff informs me that out of sixty demands for the flag that had been made in the past week, only two had been granted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 83.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 22, 1868.

A COMMISSION is instituted at the Porte for the regulation of all claims pending between Greek subjects and other parties.

Where foreigners are concerned, the dragoman of their Legation or Consulate will be present; but the Grand Vizier refused the request of the Russian Ambassador to allow one of his dragomans to assist in cases between Greek and Ottoman subjects.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 22, 1868.

YOUR Lordship's telegraphic instruction, directing me strongly to recommend the Porte not to expel the inoffensive Greeks, has just reached me, but not in time to be communicated before the departure of the present packet.

I will not fail, however, at once to execute your Lordship's instructions, although they have become less pressing, owing to the prolongation of the delay allowed to the Greeks.

In the meantime I believe I may assure your Lordship, that there is no intention on the part of the Porte to carry out the measure of expulsion with anything approaching to severity; and in the month which we have now before us, it may perhaps be possible to obtain a further relaxation.

With regard to the Greeks who will be the sufferers by the expulsion, it is to be remembered that there is hardly one of them, in any class of life, who has not regularly contributed to the maintenance of the insurrection: some giving willingly and out of sympathy for the cause, and the others because they dared not refuse the Revolutionary Committees which demanded their money.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 85.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 1, 1869.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 20th ultimo, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the course you adopted as therein reported, in inducing the Turkish Government to relax its orders, under certain circumstances, in favour of Greek vessels bound for Ottoman ports.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 86.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 1, 1869.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the course you adopted, as reported in your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, with the view of obtaining from M. Delyanni some expression of opinion on the subject of the Turkish ultimatum.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 87.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 2, 1869.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 20, 1868.

WITH reference to Mr. Elliot's despatch of the 16th instant,* inclosing a translation of Article 127 of the Greek Penal Code which, it is assumed, would apply to the case of Petropoulaki's band of volunteers, I beg to call your Lordship's attention to Article 136 of the Code.†

Article 127 is considered more especially to apply to the case of enlistments against the Government of Greece; but Article 136 unquestionably prescribes a penalty of two years' imprisonment against any one enlisting troops for service under a foreign Govern-

* No. 58.

† Article 136. "Whoever, without the authority of the Government, shall enlist subjects for military service under a foreign Power, or who shall have afforded aid and assistance to such unauthorized agent, shall be liable to a penalty of not less than two years' imprisonment."

ment, the only question being whether Crete is to be deemed a recognized belligerent Government.

In my conversations with M. Delyanni, I have repeatedly called his attention to these Articles of the Greek Code as conflicting with his statement that there is no law in Greece prohibiting the enrolment of such bands as those of Petropoulaki, but he always denied that they were in any way applicable to the case, and he even informed me that he made this statement on the authority of the Minister of Justice who is of course responsible for the due interpretation and enforcement of the laws.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 88.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 2, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 23, 1868.

THE Chamber of Deputies was prorogued yesterday afternoon by a Royal Ordinance, and need not be again convoked for about eleven months.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith extracts from the recent correspondence of Mr. Consul Lloyd, respecting the state of affairs at Syra, the latest date being the 20th instant.

Yesterday morning the Greek corvette "Hellas" returned to the Piræus from Syra, and, after a few minutes, again left the port and anchored in the Bay of Salamis. I have not been able to ascertain why she left Syra, or what it is now intended to do with her.

By the last accounts received here, which are dated yesterday, the "Enosis" was still lying in the harbour of Syra, closely watched by the Ottoman squadron. Admiral Hobart, I am happy to say, has shown great moderation and forbearance in this matter, under provocation which might have irritated many men in his position into the adoption of extreme measures.

The Commanders of the French and Austrian vessels of war have offered to take charge of the "Enosis," and escort her to the Piræus, where she will be given over to the Greek authorities for trial, and Admiral Hobart has accepted this offer. It was to be answered by the Greek Government yesterday evening. When I last spoke to M. Delyanni on the subject, he appeared to think it the best, if not the only means of avoiding a collision; but he said that he was anxious to defer coming to a final decision until the Chamber should have been prorogued, as the public excitement had reached so dangerous a point that the Government might be unable to make head against it, were a discussion to be raised in Parliament. I reminded M. Delyanni that there was no time to be lost, as it was all very well to talk of the excitement of the Greek public; but that he must also take into account the position of Admiral Hobart, and the necessity of settling the question without an hour's unnecessary delay.

Amongst the papers forwarded to me by Mr. Consul Lloyd, without any observation as to its contents, is the accompanying translation of a letter addressed to him by the Syra Committee for the affairs of Crete, which purports to give the latest news from that island, more especially with reference to the movements of Petropoulaki.

In a country like Greece it is very difficult to speak positively as to what will under certain circumstances be done by the people and their Government; but my own belief at this moment is that the danger of war with Turkey is becoming less every day, and that if the Guaranteeing Powers should eventually think fit to interfere in an authoritative manner to put a stop to the assistance almost overtly given to the insurgents in Crete, that interference would not only be quietly accepted, but would be hailed with satisfaction as the means of escaping from a state of things which has become intolerable.

Mr. Ongley, writing from Patras on the 21st instant, says:—"I think the excitement has a little calmed down now that people begin to think of the immediate effect to themselves of a rupture with Turkey. Butcher's meat has advanced 20 leptas per oke, probably because supplies from Turkey may be stopped." And Mr. Vice-Consul Wood is likewise of opinion that all who have anything to lose there are much averse to the idea of war.

The British Vice-Consul at Missolonghi writes on the 17th instant: "Missolonghi has not escaped a touch of the general excitement caused by the news of the rupture of diplomatic relations with Turkey. This excitement however, does not appear to be great. With the exception of a little blustering among some half-a-dozen well-known haters of the Porte, the people are quiet and inclined to mind their own business if allowed to do so. There are not wanting men who hold their own against those who advocate war."

And Captain Mansell writes to me on the 18th instant, from Chalcis, in Eubœa :—

“Although affairs look very serious and war is spoken of as imminent, with the good fortune of the ‘Enosis’ in effecting her escape from Admiral Hobart, the intelligence has been received without any of those violent demonstrations of joy so common and natural to the Greeks.

“Here the greater part of the people begin to look at the state of things in their real light, and although all are ready to a man to shoulder their musket in defence of their country, they would much rather see peace established,—particularly the country people, some of whom came to see us yesterday. They were deploring the state of affairs. War, they said, would be their ruin—the little produce they have accumulated since the revolution would be lost. May God avert such a calamity. It is not the Turks they so much fear as their own countrymen; this feeling prevails where the land belongs to the villagers The state of things at present could not be much worse, but I do not think they will come to blows.”

M. Delyanni continues to assure me that the Government have no intention to provoke war; but he professes to dread the effect on the public mind of the measures of coercion threatened by the Turkish Government in their ultimatum.

Inclosure 1 in No. 88.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, December 17, 1868, 11.30 A.M.

THIS night was calm, and all Admiral Hobart's vessels were off the entrance of the harbour and frequently close to it, to say nothing of boats, if the flash lights which I saw exhibited for an instant here and there came from them; and this evening another frigate has joined him, probably from Crete—five vessels in all. I confess I was sorry to see the “Hellas” arrive, as with her miserable guns and the otherwise utterly defenceless state of the place it looks like a vain defiance; and I said so to the Nomarch. He, however, seemed of a contrary opinion. He said that the Commandant of the “Forbin” had represented to Admiral Hobart the illegality of his position inside the harbour of Syra (a French boat is now alongside Admiral Hobart's frigate in the offing), but the position of matters is altogether changed now by the rupture of relations. The Nomarch said the “Hellas” would not only fight, but other vessels as well; that it was proposed to erect fortifications on certain (supposed) advantageous places, and the people would allow Syra to become a heap of ruins before they accorded an iota of the demands of Admiral Hobart. I told him I did not expect war to be declared at all by the Turks; that Admiral Hobart, who had, I believe, full powers, would not retire from before the harbour, but quietly wait the expiration of the fifteen days (unless he got other orders from Constantinople); that if the “Enosis” attempted to run out she would be attacked, and captured or destroyed if possible; otherwise at the expiration of fifteen days he might require “Enosis” to be brought out to him; that if the demand was not executed he might give notice to vessels to clear out of the way and commence cannonading “Hellas,” and this at such a distance that “Hellas” could not reach him, that the Custom-house would be knocked down, “Enosis” destroyed, and “Crete” as well, and also the works of the Greek Steam Navigation Company, and all this without Admiral Hobart receiving a single shot, unless the Greek vessels, “Enosis,” “Crete,” and other vessels of the Company chose to go out to fight the Turks, but which latter could always keep their distance; that I supposed Admiral Hobart might, perhaps, then be satisfied with what he had done, and that it would be evident to any reflecting person that resistance here is perfectly and utterly useless, and all this entirely independent, so to say, of the general question of war with Turkey, but in satisfaction of the deeds of “Enosis,” &c.

Friday 18th.—I had written this for yesterday, when I received a note from Admiral Hobart requesting to see me on board by a boat of the “Forbin” to “Izzedin,” which latter would bring me to the frigate. I accordingly went. I found Captain Meyer of the “Forbin,” Captain Stephenson of the “Wall,” and the French Consul, M. Maissonier, had been there. Admiral Hobart said, that in deference to the representation of Captain Meyer, he certainly would refrain from allowing his vessels to come so near the mouth of the harbour, but that he had received great provocation; it having been reported to him that the Captain of the “Hellas” had orders on his arrival here to intimate to him, (Admiral Hobart) in case the latter should be still in the harbour, the necessity of his moving out. I said all I could to Admiral Hobart to persuade him to avoid occasions for collisions which might lead to war before it was declared by his

Government, who might yet not intend war, and to await instructions from Constantinople, as the rupture had so changed the situation of matters. On getting home, I found M. Hahn, the Austrian, and M. Dombnitsky, the Russian Consuls, in the house; and that Captain Meyer with the French Consul had been to call on me, as well as the Prussian Consul. The object of the Consuls were to concert measures to induce the Greek Government not to put in execution the idea of the erection of defensive works in and about the town—while deprecating the project, the Nomarch came, who seemed rather in favour of the defences; it was proposed that the various agents of the different Steam Navigation Companies,—Austrian, French, English (Bibbys, Burns M'Iver, Pappayani), &c.,—should petition the Government and Consuls against the project as depriving the peaceable commercial town of Syra, already sufficiently compromised by the equipment of blockade-runners to Crete during the last two years, of this its character, and thus invite reprisals from the Turks. The Nomarch was convinced of the inutility of defences for the present crisis, but contested their inutility in case of war. I said it was useless to think even about preventing the construction of land defences so long as that more than useless floating fortification the "Hellas" remained here, and the removal of her should be included in the petition against the land defences. All agreed with me except the Nomarch, who, probably the Captain of the "Hellas" being sent here, and under his orders, dare not, if he wished it, order the "Hellas" to go. I mentioned the provocation offered to Admiral Hobart, and the Nomarch denied the possibility of the thing, the Captain of the "Hellas" being instructed to put himself entirely under the orders of the Nomarch; but I am assured to day that the Captain of the "Hellas" had orders from Athens to intimate to Admiral Hobart, should the latter still be in the harbour, on the arrival of the "Hellas," to go away, and, some say, fight him.

I have just received an application to know if the Greek Steam Navigation Company's vessels were to be sold to a British subject, whether I could give them the British flag and provisional certificate of registry for the purpose of navigation; and whether the flag would protect them, and the certificate ensure their non-capture or indemnity if illegally captured. I replied that, always excepting the "Enosis" (to which, under the circumstances, and without superior authority to do so, I would not give a certificate), I could give them certificates, provided the Consular instructions were fully complied with; that I believed, if the sale of them took place before a declaration of war, or before an act of war be committed, the transfer by purchase so made would be valid; but I could not guarantee that the Turks would not capture them, or that, in case of such capture, the capture would not be judged to be legal. A British subject for purchaser is easily found, but there is some difficulty about British masters for them—and if a British master be required as well; to that I replied I did not know, having only to do with the ship's papers, and not the navigation, unless indeed the vessel were engaged in illegal transactions. I learn too that it is in contemplation to send the "Crete" to-morrow, as a regular boat, to Piræus, under the Greek flag, with letters and passengers—among the latter of whom will be M. Stillman, American Consul in Crete, with the American flag at the fore.

7 P.M. M. Stillman has just informed me that he has proposed to give the American flag to the "Enosis" by purchasing the vessel himself, and to take the vessel to-morrow to Piræus, subject to the result of a trial of piracy there to be held, if Admiral Hobart will consent, and unless instructions to the Nomarch or news from Athens, expected this evening, should prevent this plan being carried out; but I do not see how, with the rupture of relations, a trial can be had at all, Admiral Hobart, the accuser, and the witnesses for the prosecution, being all Turkish functionaries, employés, or subjects.

I have not yet been able to fix on the chart the position of the three vessels when shots were exchanged between "Enosis" and Turkish vessels; I know, however, that the chase lasted between thirty-five and forty minutes, and that the full speed of "Izzedin" and of "Enosis" is about sixteen miles an hour, and they were probably not going that rate all the time.

Saturday 19th.—5:30 P.M.—I closed my letter, as I was going to see Admiral Hobart, and dispatched it, and have only to say that Admiral Hobart, having heard that "Crete" was going to Piræus, he wished me to inform the Nomarch that if any vessel at all like the "Enosis" leaves the harbour this evening he will certainly stop and over-haul her; but that if the Commander of the "Forbin" will guarantee to him, Admiral Hobart, that it is not the "Enosis," then Admiral Hobart will be satisfied not to stop or overhaul her. Admiral Hobart sent his secretary with me on board the "Forbin," where his secretary delivered the message; and as I was going to the Nomarch, Captain Meyer proposed to go together. We saw the Nomarch, who said he believed there had been an idea of sending the "Crete," but that it was abandoned; that "Byzantium" would go. Captain Meyer begged the Nomarch, in case of "Crete" going, to let him know, in order to inform

Admiral Hobart, who would require time to give the necessary orders for non-interference, otherwise there might be mischief done.

Inclosure 2 in No. 88.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, December 20, 1868.

I CLOSED and dispatched my letter of to-day's date, and was sent for by the Nomarch in consequence of the letter of Admiral Hobart to Captain Meyer of the "Forbin," copy of which is inclosed. I have barely time for details of the consultation at which all the Consuls assisted; but I was requested to go on board to propose to the Admiral again to wait for instructions from Piræus, by a boat to be sent hence for the purpose.

Foreseeing a refusal and difficulty, I suggested to the Nomarch to propose that "Enosis" should go to Piræus, escorted by "Hellas." Nomarch consented, if "Forbin" would also accompany "Enosis." I went to Admiral Hobart with Captain Meyer, the French Consul, and Captain Stephenson of "Wall." The Nomarch's proposition was discussed, and difficulties made by Admiral Hobart, who consulted with his officers; and finally it was agreed, as it was too late, that Admiral Hobart would allow Captain Meyer, or rather the Nomarch, 10 A.M. to-morrow, to give his answer to Admiral Hobart's letter, if Nomarch would give guarantee to Captain Meyer and to the Consuls that "Enosis" do not slip away to-night.

I now go to the French Consulate to meet the Nomarch and Captain Meyer there, to draw up the guarantee, and discuss the answer to be given to-morrow, which will embody the proposal for "Hellas" and "Enosis" to go to Piræus, and arrange details for the voyage to which I hope Admiral Hobart will agree, unless he thinks better of what he has already nearly consented to.

The iron-clad "Onania" came to-day from Constantinople, and "Coscova" three-decker from Suda—nine in all.

Inclosure 3 in No. 88.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to M. Dracopoulo.

Monsieur,

"Hudavendikiar," Rade de Syra, le 20 Décembre, 1868.

J'AI des instructions de demander aux autorités locales la consignation de "l'Enosis," ou à ce que ce steamer soit détruit, ou autrement gardé de manière à le rendre inoffensif jusqu'à ce qu'il soit jugé.

Pouvez-vous amener la paix, ou dois-je prendre des mesures énergiques?

J'apprends aussi qu'il y a un autre bâtiment appartenant à la même compagnie armé jusqu'aux dents, je veux parler de la "Crète." L'on m'assure qu'il porte huit canons, et dans ce cas je me vois obligé de le surveiller aussi; j'ai peur néanmoins être mal renseigné.

Si je ne reçois pas une réponse satisfaisante je vous prierai de notifier à la population ainsi qu'au Capitaine de la frégate Grecque, que mon intention n'est pas de faire de mal à personne; mon but principal, comme vous l'ignorez pas, est "l'Enosis."

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) AUGUSTE HOBART.

Inclosure 4 in No. 88.

M. Dracopoulo to the Commander of the "Forbin."

(Traduction.)

M. le Commandant,

Syra, ⁸/₂₀ Décembre, 1868.

AYANT eu connaissance de la dépêche que M. le Vice-Admiral de Turquie vous a adressée aujourd'hui, et dont vous avez bien voulu me remettre copie, j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer que, comme je n'ai pas des instructions de mon Gouvernement, je pense qu'il serait juste qu'un délai de deux jours me soit donné afin que j'aie le temps d'en demander et de les recevoir.

Dans le cas seulement que vous, qui aviez bien voulu vous charger de la mission

amicale d'intervenir, pensiez que des mesures violentes seraient prises, je prendrais alors sur moi la responsabilité de l'expédition du Pirée de "l'Union," accompagnée par la frégate à vapeur "l'Hellas."

Quant à ce qui concerne l'autre piroscaphe la "Crète" il ne porte que trois canons, quand il pouvait en porter quatre conformément au privilege accordé à la Compagnie.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) G. P. DRACOPOULO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 88.

M. Pappadaki to Consul Lloyd.

(Translation.)

Syra, December $\frac{8}{20}$, 1868.

LAST night the Austrian steamer arrived from Crete, by which we learn that in this division of Canea the insurrection is hard pressed on account of the winter which is severe, and the enemy has occupied Agia Roumeli; although on the ^{24th November} ^{6th December} a fight took place in the district of Apokorona, in which ours, under the Chief Gogoni, did a great deal of damage to the enemy.

In the central provinces the insurrection has been much encouraged by the arrival of Petropoulaki; and before his arrival, the enemy having tried to enter the district of Amarion, was repulsed by ours near the village of Platania; the enemy is acting with energy in these parts, in order to occupy the sea coasts.

And in the Eastern provinces the insurrection is in great animation, and on the ^{21st November} ^{3rd December} ours attacked the Imperial troops in Kalacheria of Yerapetra, and in the village of the district of Ubdou of Padiades; on the ^{24th November} ^{6th December}, in Kalacheria again, and in Malior of Padiades; and on the ^{27th November} ^{9th December}, in the village Embaro of Padiada. In the Eastern division the desertion of the Turkish troops continues.

From the Office of the Committee and for them,

(Signed) TH. PAPPADAKI.

No. 89.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 2, 1869.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 24, 1868.

SINCE my despatch of yesterday's date was written, I have received a further report from Mr. Consul Lloyd, an extract from which is herewith inclosed, transmitting copies of the correspondence which has been exchanged between Admiral Hobart and the Nomarch of Syra, &c., in regard to the "Enosis" being sent, under escort, to the Piræus.

I am further informed by the French Minister that, having been consulted by Admiral Moulac as to the expediency of permitting the "Forbin" to convoy the "Enosis" to the Piræus, he saw M. Delyanni, and ascertained from him that the Government had made up their minds, after taking the opinion of a Commission of the most distinguished jurists in Greece, to decline accepting Admiral Hobart's proposal in any shape whatever. The utmost they were prepared to do would be to receive any charge which Admiral Hobart might think fit to prefer against the "Enosis," and instruct the Crown prosecutor to proceed against that vessel in the usual way, and before the competent Tribunal, in the event of the charge and the evidence proving sufficiently conclusive to justify that course.

On receiving this answer Baron Baude saw at once that any further interference on his part in the affair would be useless, and he has written to Admiral Moulac to advise that the "Forbin" should be recalled from Syra, and that Admiral Hobart should be left to seek redress in his own way.

I omitted to mention yesterday that, before the Chamber was prorogued, the Government were asked whether war with Turkey was inevitable. M. Delyanni replied that the Government did not provoke war, but that they were obliged to defend the national honour, assailed by Turkey, and that force would be repelled by force. In answer to an inquiry as to what foreign Power would give its support to Greece, he said that "the policy of all the Powers had been the same, that is to say, all had advised moderation and prudence."

The project of a loan of 100,000,000 drachmas was eventually carried in the following terms by a majority of 90 to 55, viz. :—

"The Chamber grants to the Government charged with the defence of the nation, in the present extraordinary circumstances, the power of contracting a loan of 100,000,000 drachmas (3,571,428*l.*), by pledging or mortgaging the real or moveable property of the State, and by seeking also for other resources."

The first consequence of the passing of this law has been that the Government have summarily required the National Bank to advance them 4,000,000 drachmas (142,857*l.*) of the specie on which the whole paper currency of the kingdom is based to pay for certain iron-clad vessels of war which the Government are desirous of purchasing abroad. The Director of the Bank was informed that he would be allowed until to-day to consider the matter, and that Government would then take the money by force if necessary. The Director addressed a note, received this day, of which a copy is herewith inclosed, to the Representatives of the three Powers, imploring our interference to prevent this threat being carried into effect. I inclose, likewise, a copy of an identic note which I and my two colleagues have addressed to M. Delyanni, in the hope of averting the very serious danger which must result from this act of folly and spoliation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, December 22, 1868.

I DISCUSSED the matter a long time with Admiral Hobart, and representing to him that the first act of violence would be the first act of war, which I could not think would be approved of, if possible to be avoided; and that there was a method of avoiding it without losing himself any ground at all in the matter. He consented, and I succeeded in obtaining from him the conditions, as stated in his letter to Captain Meyer, of the 21st of December, inclosed in copy. It was mid-day when I returned to "Forbin," and Captain Stephenson, of the "Wall," having joined us, we all three went to the French Consul, who accompanied us to the Nomarch, to whom Captain Meyer submitted the letter of Admiral Hobart, containing the conditions of the "Enosis" departure under escort of "Hellas." The Nomarch seemed inclined to dispute the conditions one by one, but being convinced, not only of the impossibility of evading them, but also of their reasonableness under the circumstances, said he would consult with the Captain of the "Hellas" before replying. I then said there was another condition which Admiral Hobart required, though not expressed in his letter of conditions (which omission he, the Nomarch, should easily appreciate), and which letter limited the escort of the "Hellas" to the Piræus, and not into the harbour; that the "Hellas" would be free to enter or not, as she chose, but that the "Enosis" would have to remain outside the harbour till such time as a boat, sent by the "Hellas" or the "Enosis" for the purpose into the harbour, where Admiral Hobart did not intend to go, should return, with a written engagement from the local authorities there, that they will take charge of the "Enosis," and keep her there till such time as she would be tried later on the charge of piracy. Otherwise, if Admiral Hobart allowed the "Enosis" at once to enter into the harbour, he (the Admiral) might wait in vain for the document, as he has himself done here; his sole and immediate object at present being to ensure the non-escape of the "Enosis," which he was most effectually doing, and intended to do here at present. The Nomarch seemed to seize upon this condition to inveigh against what he called the exorbitant pretensions of Admiral Hobart, and said it was impossible to comply with them; that the "Hellas" could not abandon the charge of the "Enosis," nor consent even to be accompanied by the Ottoman fleet, still less to be detained outside the Piræus, or even endure the semblance of being under the constraint of Turkish vessels. I replied that the conditions mentioned nothing of the Turkish fleet, to which, as to the "Hellas," the sea was open; and that nobody here could pretend to dictate to Admiral Hobart when he might go to the Piræus; that when I first saw Admiral Hobart, the eve before, he seemed inclined to consent to the departure of the "Enosis" for the Piræus, under escort of the "Hellas," but that this morning, after consultation with his Turkish officers, I found him under the influence of very different sentiments. That I had laboured hard with arguments to persuade him to consent, and that I had succeeded in reducing his conditions to a minimum; that I could not go again to him for the purpose of trying to reduce them still further, though I would willingly accompany Captain Meyer for the purpose, if the latter thought he had any chance of success. All except the Nomarch,

agreed that, however hard for the captain of "Hellas," Admiral Hobart had right and reason under actual circumstances on his side in the conditions (to say nothing of might), his vessels having been all round the very entrance of the harbour ever since last night, and three now at the time inside, and exactly opposite "Enosis" and "Crete." The Nomarch then said he would rather send away the "Hellas," as he was sure the Captain of "Hellas" would not consent, nor could he (the Nomarch) put him in such a position, and that he would at once go to see the captain of the "Hellas."

I then returned home, and shortly after the Nomarch came and said he had given orders to "Hellas" to leave at once. I then said I would go and report the fact to Admiral Hobart, and went on board for the purpose, accompanied by Captain Meyer and Captain Stephenson.

Admiral Hobart was delighted—the "Hellas" steaming out at the time just under his stern—and immediately applied to Captain Meyer and to Captain Stephenson to take charge, and escort to Piræus, the "Enosis" (as per inclosure), and required meantime a guarantee that "Enosis" would not leave the port. They, of course, could not undertake to do this without the request, or at least consent, of the Nomarch; and we all returned to the Nomarch, when it was arranged that the latter should have communication of the new proposal of Captain Hobart. That the Nomarch should consult with the owners of "Enosis," and then give his reply. Meantime he gave me the guarantee required (annexed in copy), which I took at once to Admiral Hobart, and it was 10 P.M. when I returned to my house.

This morning at half-past 8, I received a visit from Captain Meyer and the French Consul, who said the latter had late last night received a complaint and protest (copy and translation annexed) from the Nomarch against the presence in the harbour during the night of Turkish boats, which refused to reply to the challenge of the sentry of Guarda Costa; and this too while the negotiations for taking "Enosis" to Piræus were pending, and although he had guaranteed to me the stay of "Enosis" in harbour for three days. We all went to the Nomarch to learn the real meaning of this note, which looked like an endeavour to break the present tranquil state of affairs, and the complaint about boats in harbour, whilst there was a fleet in and off the entrance was absurd and ill-timed. The Nomarch exclaimed loudly against the illegality of Admiral Hobart's proceedings; declared his right to protest, but denied that he wished to prevent a pacific solution of difficulty by departure of "Enosis" under escort of "Forbin" and "Wall," and insisted on the right of armed men being as they were still on board "Enosis" and "Crete." (Inclosed is letter of Captain Stephenson to the Nomarch relative to the projected departure of "Enosis" to Piræus.) Captain Meyer has, I believe, received a similar one, and so matters remain at this time (2 P.M.), the Greeks choosing now to exercise the National Guard, which they are doing at this minute.

4 P.M.—I have just returned from the "Forbin" where I was requested to go, and there learnt that the Nomarch had informed Captain Meyer that the former must consult the owners of the "Enosis" and will reply this evening; that, consequently, Captain Meyer could not undertake to start so early as to-morrow morning; further, that Captain Meyer could not undertake to keep "Enosis" in Piræus till Admiral Hobart's arrival, as, though free here, he would there be under the orders of the French Admiral; and that he had informed Admiral Hobart of this, who is sending immediately letters to the French Admiral asking his approval of Admiral Hobart's proposal.

I went to the Nomarch and told him of the delay in "Forbin's" departure with "Enosis." He said he had just finished his reply to Captain Meyer. It is to the effect that under protest against *force majeure*, he accepts the proposal and conditions of Admiral Hobart; only stipulates that "Enosis" be not detained till Admiral Hobart's arrival, but be handed to local authorities. This will be communicated to Admiral Hobart, who will, I expect, require a receipt and obligation from local authorities in Piræus to detain "Enosis" there until such time as she be tried, and so more time will be lost, unless, indeed, the French Admiral should not approve of Captain Meyer's taking sole or joint charge at all of "Enosis."

7 P.M.—I have just received the inclosed formal protest from the Nomarch against Admiral Hobart's proceedings, and asking for Consular protection against the apprehended destruction of the "Enosis," and against the alleged violation of the laws of the country, and I am requested to go at 8 o'clock to the French Consulate, there to meet the other Consuls.

A.M., 23rd December.—The meeting was called by the Austrian Consul to consider the Nomarch's proposal of Consul's giving protection to "Enosis." The Russian Consul approved of the project, as did the Austrian Consul. I decidedly objected, and considered the document a subterfuge to gain time; the negotiations for taking "Enosis" to Piræus under French and Austrian protection being still pending. The French

Commandant and French Consul were of my opinion. After separating I went to the Nomarch, and have just left him. I confess I have little hope of avoiding the extremes menaced by Admiral Hobart as I can [?] so little real assistance from the Nomarch, who still says he is without instructions, and confesses he is afraid of not acting as they would desire, his condition of "Enosis" being delivered direct to the local authorities without further obligation, and not to be detained till Admiral Hobart's arrival being, he says, a *sine quâ non*, to his consent to "Enosis" being entrusted to "Forbin" and "Wall," and as Admiral Hobart will not consent to that without the assurance of her being arrested and tried, I see no prospect of "Enosis" going at all to Piræus; and we are just where we were, except that Admiral Hobart is fast losing patience, urged on as he must be by his Turkish officers. To-morrow, however, I will probably see Admiral Hobart, and try to devise some other plan for avoiding a catastrophe.

Inclosure 2 in No. 89.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Capitaine de Meyer.

M. le Commandant;

"Hudavendikiar," ce 21 Décembre, 1868.

EN réponse à votre lettre de ce matin j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que je ne m'oppose pas à ce que "l'Enosis" quitte ce port pour le Pirée, escorté par le "Hellas," aux conditions suivantes:—

1. Que "l'Enosis" soit immédiatement désarmé sous tous les rapports.
2. Que le départ ait lieu le matin en plein jour, afin de pouvoir arriver avant la nuit au Pirée.
3. Que l'équipage de "l'Enosis" soit limité au nombre d'hommes essentiellement requis pour conduire le navire.
4. Que le Capitaine de la frégate "Hellas" s'engage par écrit d'escorter "l'Enosis" jusqu'au Pirée pour que ce steamer y soit jugé sur le chef d'accusation d'un acte de piraterie.

Si ces termes sont acceptés, "l'Enosis" doit quitter le port de Syra demain matin, le Capitaine de "l'Hellas" me notifiant deux heures d'avance son départ en me transmettant les documents demandés, et en s'engageant que "l'Enosis" ira directement au Pirée et ne se séparera pas de "l'Hellas."

Il est bien entendu que si les conditions ci-dessus ne sont pas acceptées et remplies, je me trouve dans la dure nécessité de donner suite à mes premières intentions de procéder à des extrêmes.

Tout en vous remerciant cordialement pour les peines que vous vous êtes données dans cette malheureuse affaire, je vous prie de vouloir bien agréer, &c.

(Signé) AUGUSTUS HOBART.

Inclosure 3 in No. 89.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Capitaine de Meyer.

Monsieur,

"Hudavendikiar," ce 21 Décembre, 1868.

UN vapeur nommé "l'Enosis" s'étant réfugié dans le port après avoir commis un acte de piraterie en faisant feu sur la frégate battant mon guidon, je l'ai suivi en réclamant aux autorités locales sa mise en arrestation ou bien sa livraison.

Les autorités se déclarèrent incompétentes d'agir, et exprimèrent le désir d'en référer à Athènes. J'ai vainement attendu huit jours pour une réponse. Mes instructions m'ordonnent de procéder à l'arrestation de ce navire, ce que je crains amènerait des complications sérieuses à la suite des relations critiques qui existent entre la Turquie et la Grèce. Or, en votre qualité de Représentant exécutif d'une des Puissances Protectrices de la Grèce et de la Turquie, je viens vous prier, pour éviter des conséquences qui pourraient être fatales au renouement des relations amicales entre les deux pays, de vouloir bien vous charger de cet ennemi commun au monde maritime, et de conduire "l'Enosis" au Pirée et l'y retenir jusqu'à mon arrivée, qui ne se fera pas attendre.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) AUGUSTUS HOBART.

Inclosure 4 in No. 89.

M. Dracopoulo to Consul Lloyd.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Syra, December $\frac{9}{21}$, 1868.

IN reply to your question, I can assure you that the "Enosis" will not leave this harbour for the next three days, at least, without your knowledge and consent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. P. DRACOPOULO, *Nomarch.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 89.

M. Dracopoulo to the French Consul at Syra.

(Translation.)

Mr. Consul of France,

Syra, December $\frac{9}{21}$, 1868.

I AM informed this moment that boats of the Ottoman fleet are cruising in the harbour, and that they do not answer to the challenge of the Royal coast-guard vessel.

Against this illicit act of the Ottoman fleet, of which acts I have before complained to you, Mr. Consul, I am obliged to protest, seeing its continuation, especially after my assurance that the "Enosis" will not leave, and the negotiations still pending. Reserving the official form of this my protest, receive, &c.

The Nomarch of Cyclades,

(Signed) G. DRACOPOULO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 89.

Captain Stephenson to M. Dracopoulo.

Monsieur,

Syra, le 22 Décembre, 1868.

J'AI eu l'honneur de vous donner hier communication de la lettre que m'a adressée son Excellence Hobart Pacha, Commandant-en-chef de la flotte Ottomane. Je lui ai répondu que pour éviter un acte d'hostilité tel que l'enlèvement de "l'Enosis" dans le port de Syra, je consentirais, malgré mon manque d'instructions à cet égard, à prendre sous ma garde "l'Enosis" pour la conduire au Pirée. L'Amiral a demandé que l'avviso de Sa Majesté le "Forbin" fut adjoint au "Wall" pour ce voyage. Je désirais savoir si vous consentez à la proposition de l'Amiral Hobart, et dans le cas de votre acceptation après en être concerté avec le Capitaine Meyer, nous désirons que les conditions suivantes fussent réglées pour la sûreté de la mission toute pacifique que nous aurons à accomplir :—

1. L'Enosis ne conservera à bord ni armes ni munitions de guerre quelconques.
2. Le bâtiment n'aura pour faire le voyage de Syra au Pirée que l'équipage absolument indispensable pour chauffer la moitié des chaudières et manœuvrer le gouvernail.
3. Les chaudières qui ne seront pas allumées devront être mises provisoirement hors de service.
4. Une garde composée de matelots Autrichiens et Français avec un officier de chaque nation sera installée à bord pour le voyage.
5. Le capitaine devra s'entendre avec les commandants du "Forbin" et du "Wall" pour l'exécution des mesures ci-dessus, afin que les trois bâtiments puissent faire route demain matin à six heures pour le Pirée.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) M. F. STEPHENSON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 89.

M. Dracopoulo to the Consuls of the friendly Powers at Syra, and to the Commanders of the French and Austrian vessels of war.

(Translation.)

Syra, December $\frac{10}{21}$, 1868.

I INCLOSE herewith copy of a protest, which I was last night obliged to address to the French Consul at this place, against the breach of international law and of the laws of this kingdom, committed by the Ottoman fleet. I consider it desirous to make a brief statement of what has taken place for some days past.

When, about ten days ago, the Greek steamer "Enosis" was seen steering towards this port, pursued and fired at by two Ottoman ships at a short distance from the harbour, which ships afterwards anchored in the harbour, you, MM. les Consuls, at my request, met and heard my statement as regards the illegal step of the Ottoman ships, and my protest against this highly inimical act, and this whilst Greece was still in friendly relations with Turkey.

Present at this interview was the Ottoman Consul-General, who expressed to me his surprise in respect to this act of the Ottoman vessels, and went to call upon their superior officer.

Meanwhile, the Commander of the Austrian ship "Wall," on this station, having joined us, he communicated to me, in your presence, on the part of the Turkish Vice-Admiral, that he, the Admiral, demanded the arrest and prosecution of the "Enosis," which he considered as being a piratical vessel, as otherwise he would commence hostilities.

Then the British Consul, at your request as well as mine, went on board the flag-ship to ask the Turkish Admiral to make his demands in writing.

On his return, he transmitted to me the document which was brought to your knowledge, and to which I answered immediately, that I could not decide previous to receiving instructions from the Government of my Sovereign.

Then the Admiral replied, and thanked me for my promptness in answering him, stating that he had no hostile intentions against the town, and that his sole view was to impede the escape of the "Enosis."

Nevertheless, without necessity, the two Ottoman vessels were gradually reinforced by eight other vessels, amongst which there are iron-clads and two-deckers.

You can well understand, Gentlemen, that the presence of such a colossal naval force in a state of war, against an ungarrisoned and unarmed commercial town, was naturally considered as a hostile demonstration, disturbed the mind of the inhabitants, and has brought on a commercial stagnation, to the great loss of private interest, with which are bound up and endangered many serious European interests.

I have not been able to accept the proposal made to me, to send the "Enosis" to the Piræus in company with the "Hellas," as I could not accept the condition which obliged the authorities of the Piræus to give a receipt to the Vice-Admiral on the arrival of the "Enosis" there, which showed me his decision to follow the "Hellas" to the Piræus with his fleet, though I had agreed that such a receipt should be given by the Commander of the "Hellas."

Having often heard repeated by some of you that the presence here of the "Hellas" made the state of things more critical, and to prove to you my desire to avoid a conflict which would inevitably make matters worse, I decided to take upon myself the responsibility of sending the "Hellas" to the Piræus, which I have done.

About two days ago the Turkish Vice-Admiral, addressing himself to the Commander of the "Forbin," demanded either the surrender of the "Enosis," her arrest or destruction, or that she should be deprived of the power of doing injury; otherwise, he threatens to use coercive measures. To remove this new difficulty, I advised the Steam Navigation Company to disarm the steamer in question, though by law it has the right to be armed, a right which all the vessels of the Company have. This measure has also been executed.

After the disarmament of the "Enosis" and the departure of the "Hellas," the Turkish Vice-Admiral demanded that the "Enosis" be sent to the Piræus, accompanied by the French and Austrian vessels, this was communicated to me verbally by the Commanders (of these vessels) yesterday evening. I replied that if this is laid down as a condition, without which hostilities will not take place, and with the desire of again avoiding the consequences, I would agree to their accompanying the "Enosis" to the Piræus.

To-day was communicated to me by the Commanders of the French and Austrian vessels, a letter addressed to them yesterday by the Turkish Admiral, in which he proposes that the said Commanders should accompany the "Enosis" to the Piræus, and keep her until the Vice-Admiral arrives there, the "Enosis" being considered as a common enemy to navigation; a copy of the said document was sent to me, with a view to my complying with this measure, and to my accepting certain conditions which the Commanders proposed for the safe transport of the said ship.

I replied to them, that, since they believed that unless the "Enosis" be sent to the Piræus, force would be certainly used, I agreed to the measure proposed, and also to the conditions added by the Commanders on the formal condition that the said vessel be given up to the Greek authorities at the Piræus immediately on her arrival, as without this I should be consenting to the illegal withdrawal of a Greek vessel from the jurisdiction of the competent authorities, and from the laws which govern the Kingdom.

Being unaware whether the Turkish Vice-Admiral will be convinced by the reason and legality of my observation, what will be the measures to be taken in the event of their rejection? And as I cannot under any consideration infringe the laws of the kingdom, or be a party to their being infringed, I address myself to you, MM. les Consuls and MM. les Commandants, and laying before you the facts, I request your intervention, as the Representatives of friendly Powers and of civilized nations, in favour of the menaced private wealth, and the respect for the laws of the State, and placing in your hands the protection of the ship in question, I am certain you will act so as to avoid the necessity of force being employed, and the consequences which might result therefrom.

Meanwhile, protesting against the presence of the Ottoman vessels in this Hellenic harbour, after relations have been broken, and without a declaration of war, especially after demanding and obtaining assurances of the departure of the "Enosis," and after the measures taken up by me, which I have mentioned here above, confident in your judgment and impartiality, and in your corresponding activity.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. P. DRACOPOULO.

Inclosure 8 in No. 89.

M. Stavros to Mr. Erskine.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 1^{er} 2/3 Décembre, 1868.

LE Gouvernement Hellénique est en instance auprès de la Banque pour obtenir un prêt considérable et dont la réalisation menace de compromettre son crédit et son existence même. Nous apprenons de l'autre côté qu'on s'occupe de la rédaction d'actes en vertu desquels on emploierait, en cas de refus, la violence, pour s'emparer du numéraire existant dans les caisses de la Banque.

Dans de telles circonstances la Direction de la Banque croit de son devoir de mettre sous les yeux de votre Excellence les suites désastreuses que de pareilles mesures peuvent avoir contre les intérêts des sujets des Puissances étrangères. Beaucoup de sujets étrangers sont actionnaires de la Banque. Tous les étrangers résidant en Grèce sont détenteurs de ses billets et il y en a qui possèdent des obligations pour des dépôts fait à la Banque. Plusieurs des principaux banquiers de Londres, de Paris, et même de St. Pétersbourg sont en compte courant avec la Banque. Notre commerce, que la Banque alimente, est débiteur de sommes importantes à l'étranger et notamment à Londres, à Marseilles, et à Odessa. Or, toute violence exercée contre la Banque pour lui enlever, sans son consentement, n'importe à quel titre, son numéraire, est une atteinte directe à tous les intérêts étrangers que je viens d'énumérer.

La Banque est en même temps dépositaire, en vertu de l'entente entre le Gouvernement et les trois Puissances, des sommes affectées au paiement annuel pour compte de l'emprunt des 60,000,000 et provenant des recettes des douanes. Dans la prévision de ce péril imminent dont la Banque est menacée, et pour mettre à couvert ma responsabilité vis-à-vis des intérêts étrangers, j'ose adresser la présente à votre Excellence afin que, d'accord avec ses collègues de France et de Russie, elle avise aux moyens de sauvegarder les intérêts par une efficace protection, qui dans d'autres circonstances périlleuses ne leur a pas fait défaut.

Veillez, &c.

Le Gouverneur,
(Signé) G. STAVROS.

Inclosure 9 in No. 89.

Mr. Erskine to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 24 Décembre, 1868.

M. le Gouverneur de la Banque Nationale de Grèce a appelé mon attention sur des démarches faites auprès du Conseil de cet établissement et qui seraient de nature à altérer gravement les conditions de son existence.

Vous n'ignorez pas, M. le Ministre, que la Banque Nationale a pour actionnaires un grand nombre de sujets étrangers, et qu'elle est l'intermédiaire le plus accrédité du commerce de la Grèce avec les principales maisons d'Angleterre.

En outre la Banque Nationale reçoit, en vertu d'une entente entre la Grande Bretagne

la France, et la Russie, les sommes affectées au paiement annuel pour compte de l'emprunt de 60,000,000 provenant des recettes des douanes Helléniques.

A ces différents titres, M. le Ministre, je crois devoir signaler au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique la gravité qu'aurait toute mesure susceptible d'altérer, par acte du Gouvernement, les bases de la Constitution de la Banque, et faire les réserves en faveur des droits des actionnaires et des créanciers Anglais.

Intéressées par leur bienveillance particulière envers la Grèce et par leur situation spéciale de garantes de l'emprunt de 1832 et des créanciers du Gouvernement Hellénique à tout se qui touche à la prospérité du Royaume, les trois Puissances ne sauraient voir sans regret adopter des mesures qui en atteignant le principal établissement financier du pays, porteraient infailliblement atteinte à son crédit général.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 90.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 2.)

(Extract.)

Paris, January 1, 1869.

ON learning from M. de St. Ferriol that, this being new year's day, it would be inconvenient to M. de Lavalette to receive a visit on business, I authorized him to tell his Excellency that, on the distinct understanding that the discussions in the Conference should be limited in the manner which had been agreed upon, Her Majesty's Government consented to take part in it. I begged him to mention, also, that I had received from Her Majesty's Government a very positive statement of objections which they entertained to any notion of using coercive measures to enforce the recommendations of the Conference. I added that I would wait upon M. de Lavalette early to-morrow morning and make him fully acquainted with the instructions I had received.

No. 91.

Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 3.)

M. le Comte,

Londres, le 2 Janvier, 1869.

LE Cabinet de Berlin, se référant au Protocole du 14 Avril, 1856, a, comme le sait votre Excellence, proposé que les Puissances signataires du Traité de Paris fussent appelées à se réunir en Conférence pour rechercher les moyens d'apaiser le différend qui s'est élevé entre la Turquie et la Grèce. La France a adhéré à cette proposition et l'a immédiatement recommandée à l'assentiment de toutes les Cours, en convenant avec elles que la délibération aurait pour but unique et précis, d'examiner dans quelle mesure il y a lieu de faire droit aux réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum de la Porte. D'accord, également, avec les Puissances, pour qu'un Représentant de la Grèce soit admis au sein de la Conférence, à titre consultatif, le Gouvernement de l'Empereur pense qu'il importe de procéder, sans retard, à la convocation des Plénipotentiaires, et je suis, en conséquence, chargé de demander à votre Excellence de vouloir bien, en raison de l'urgence, faire parvenir, sans retard, à l'Ambassadeur de la Reine, les pleins-pouvoirs qui lui sont nécessaires. Si rien ne s'y oppose, la réunion aurait lieu le 9 Janvier.

En réclamant de l'obligeance de votre Excellence une réponse aussi prompte que possible, je profite, &c.

(Signé) PCE. DE LA TOUR D'AUVERGNE.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

London, January 2, 1869.

THE Cabinet of Berlin, referring to the Protocol of the 14th of April, 1856, has, as your Excellency knows, proposed that the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris should be summoned to meet in Conference, to inquire into the means of settling the dispute which has arisen between Turkey and Greece. France has adhered to this proposal, and has at once recommended it to the assent of all the Courts, agreeing with them that the deliberation should have for its sole and precise object to examine to what extent the claims put forward in the ultimatum of the Porte ought to be justified. Agreeing also with the Powers that a Representative of Greece should be admitted to the Conference

on a consultative footing, the Government of the Emperor thinks that steps should be taken without delay for the convocation of the Plenipotentiaries, and I am, consequently, charged to ask your Excellency to be good enough, on account of the urgency of the matter, to send the necessary full powers without delay to the Ambassador of the Queen. If there is nothing to prevent it, the meeting will take place on the 9th of January.

Requesting your Excellency to favour me with as prompt a reply as possible, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

PCE. DE LA TOUR D'AUVERGNE.

No. 92.

Safvet Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by Musurus Pasha, January 4, 1869.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Le 23 Décembre, 1868.

POUR faire suite à mes communications précédentes, je vous transmets, ci-joint, copie des différents rapports que Photiades Bey nous a adressés la veille de la rupture des relations diplomatiques et commerciales entre la Turquie et la Grèce.

La lecture de ces pièces vous fera comprendre jusqu'où le Gouvernement Hellénique a poussé son hostilité à notre égard.

En vous autorisant à faire de ces rapports tel usage que vous jugerez convenable, je saisis, &c.

(Signé)

SAFVET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to Safvet Pasha.

Excellence,

Athènes, le 25 Novembre, 1868.

POUR faire suite à mon télégramme du 21 de ce mois, par lequel, en revenant sur l'ardeur ouvertement déployée ici dans la poursuite des recrutements de volontaires et des préparatifs extraordinaires pour le ravitaillement de l'insurrection de Crète, je priais votre Excellence de vouloir bien me tracer les limites d'une démarche énergique à tenter auprès du Gouvernement Hellénique en raison de sa connivance évidente, je m'empresse de lui soumettre plus en détail les informations que j'ai eu occasion de recueillir et qui ont motivé mon télégramme précité.

Pétropoulaki, dont j'ai fait mention dans mon rapport, non content d'avoir enrôlé dans la capitale même très ouvertement des volontaires, comme pour donner plus d'ostentation à son équipée, passa en voiture devant la Légation Impériale le jour de son départ pour Gythian; son homme, assis à côté du cocher, portant déployé, de l'aveu de témoins oculaires, le drapeau de sa bande.

Le bateau corsaire "l'Enosis," qui était venu du Pirée pour embarquer des munitions de guerre, fut chargé par le Comité avec de l'argent fourni par le Gouvernement Hellénique à cet effet.

Sur ce même clipper ont été embarquées deux pièces de montagne provenant de l'arsenal du Gouvernement à Nauplie, et cinquante artilleurs avec leurs sous-officiers destinés à desservir ces canons, ont été adjoints à la bande de Pétropoulaki sous prétexte de congé.

Aussi d'autres pièces de gros calibre pour armer en guerre le corsaire la "Crète" sont sorties du même arsenal et ont été transportées dans ce but à Syra.

Tous les militaires détenus dans la forteresse de Nauplie seront mis également, à la disposition de ce chef de bande.

Afin de régulariser la comptabilité de la bande, des commissaires de l'armée Hellénique y seront adjoints, en vertu toujours d'un congé déguisé.

Selon mes renseignements la bande dont il s'agit, composée de 1,000 hommes environ, doit se rallier à Cérigo, d'où les trois clippers "l'Enosis," la "Crète," et le "Panhellénion," la transporteront sur la côte de Sphakia. Je n'ai pas manqué d'en faire part à votre Excellence par mon télégramme, afin de faire attirer la vigilance de nos croiseurs de ce côté-là.

Tout cela s'est passé et se passe au grand jour et en dépit de mes représentations itératives à MM. Bulgaris et Delyanni, et de leurs déclarations formelles tendant à repousser toute connivance avec les Comités qui agiraient indépendamment du Gouvernement, lequel n'aurait à son tour aucune espèce d'action sur eux pour empêcher leurs menées.

Les faits qui précèdent étant du domaine de notoriété publique ne laissent pas que de justifier une démarche énergique de la part de la Légation Impériale ; mais pour qu'elle promette un effet quelconque il faut qu'elle sorte des formes jusqu'à présent employées et dont la stérilité a été suffisamment démontrée par l'expérience du passé.

J'ose par conséquent émettre l'opinion qu'elle devrait contenir la menace d'une rupture immédiate des relations entre les deux Etats, et, au besoin, être suivie de près des conséquences que cette menace comporte. Toute autre démarche n'aboutirait qu'à un échange de notes roulant dans le cercle vicieux de vaines récriminations.

Mes collègues d'Angleterre et de France, à qui j'ai fait part et des faits qui précèdent et des considérations qu'ils m'inspirent, se sont associés à ma manière de voir et ont télégraphié en conséquence à leurs Gouvernements respectifs.

Je dois ajouter que le revirement de politique du Gouvernement Hellénique a été provoqué d'une part par le retour dans la capitale de M. Coumoundouros, qui, s'étant mis à la tête de l'Opposition, a repris avec plus de violence ses attaques contre le Gouvernement en l'accusant hautement de trahir la cause Crétoise pour complaire à la Turquie, et par les encouragements, de l'autre, venus de dehors. D'après mes informations, des avis reçus des Principautés Danubiennes, de Servie, et des provinces Slaves de l'Empire, y ont aussi beaucoup contribué.

Je ne parle pas des folles espérances dont on se berce ici, soit à cause du changement prochain du Cabinet Britannique et de la probabilité de l'entrée au pouvoir de MM. Gladstone et Bright, soit par suite de la nomination de M. Grant à la Présidence des Etats Unis d'Amérique. Toutefois, il est positif que, depuis quelques jours, tout a changé d'aspect, Gouvernement et Comités étant confondus dans la même direction d'idées et d'action.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) PHOTIADES.

P.S.—J'apprends à l'instant que le Colonel Scaltraz, Commandant des Colonnes préposées à la garde de la frontière, a été appelé à Athènes pour être placé à la tête des volontaires destinés à se rendre en Crète.

P.

Inclosure 2 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to Safvet Pasha.

(Extrait.)

Le 9 Décembre, 1868.

AFIN de ne pas laisser ignorer à votre Excellence la tendance de l'esprit public dans le pays, je dois la prévenir que la rupture, tout en étant désirée par ceux qui n'ont rien à perdre ou qui espèrent gagner dans une aventure, épouvante les hommes bien pensants et qui ont quelque chose à risquer. Comme les premiers l'emportent sur les derniers, on pourrait dire que l'opinion publique s'est prononcée pour la rupture.

L'espoir qu'une grande partie des négociants Grecs établis en Turquie seraient obligés de rentrer en Grèce avec leurs capitaux sourit aux adeptes de la grande idée, qui se flattent de croire qu'ils pourraient profiter de ces capitaux pour mettre à exécution leurs projets aventureux du côté de l'Epire et de la Thessalie.

Inclosure 3 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to Safvet Pasha.

Excellence,

Athènes, le 9 Décembre, 1868.

En me référant à mes Rapports en date du 2 Décembre, j'ai l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence que les Délégués Crétois envoyés sur un voilier à Egine en vue d'y recueillir leurs familles, et de les ramener au Pirée pour être repatriées par le bateau Français la "Ville de Marseille," nolisé par le Gouvernement Impérial, n'ont pas communiqué avec leurs parents se trouvant en cette île, et en sont retournés après y avoir été l'objet d'une cruelle agression. Un de ces Délégués ayant débarqué a été assailli et maltraité, et a dû se jeter dans la mer pour échapper à ses persécuteurs ; un autre d'entre eux ayant également débarqué, n'a plus reparu et on ne sait encore ce qu'il est devenu.

J'ai l'honneur de soumettre, ci-joint, à votre Excellence copie de la note que j'ai adressée en cette occasion à M. Delyanni.

Le 3 de ce mois j'ai repatrié par la "Ville de Marseille" 200 émigrés, tous embarqués en Pirée. A son retour de la Canée le susdit bateau, ayant à bord les Délégués Crétois, a touché à Egine, qui se trouvait sur sa route; mais cette nouvelle tentative, essayée sur les instances de son Excellence Hussein Pacha d'activer par tous les moyens le repatriement, n'a eu aucun succès, les Délégués n'ayant pu cette fois non plus communiquer avec leurs familles, nonobstant l'envoi récent en cette île du Nomarque de l'Attique avec la mission de prendre des mesures efficaces pour la protection des émigrés qui voudraient rentrer dans leur pays.

J'ai l'espoir de repatrier demain près de 250 Crétois qui se sont déjà inscrits pour être transportés dans leur pays.

En exécution des ordres contenus dans la dépêche télégraphique de votre Excellence datée du 1 Décembre et reçue le 4 du même mois, je me bornerai dorénavant à faire partir les familles Crétoises des échelles seules du Pirée et de Cérigo.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) PHOTIADES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Le 21 Novembre
3 Décembre, 1868.

LA scène déplorable qui vient de se reproduire à Egine à l'égard des Crétois rendus dans cette île pour recueillir leurs familles, par suite d'une entente établie à cet effet entre le Gouvernement du Roi et la Légation Impériale, m'impose le devoir d'attirer votre attention sérieuse sur la gravité des incidents qui s'y rattachent.

En effet, je ne me suis décidé à envoyer à Egine les vingt Crétois désireux d'y recueillir leurs familles afin de les ramener chez eux, que sur la promesse préalable du Gouvernement du Roi d'aviser aux moyens propres à garantir leur libre circulation dans cette île et à les préserver de l'agression dont ils étaient menacés de la part d'une bande de Sphakiotes organisés à cet effet, selon les informations que je me suis empressé de vous communiquer en temps opportun.

D'après les dépositions de ces gens revenus depuis peu au Pirée, mes appréhensions ont été malheureusement confirmées. Non-seulement il leur a été défendu de communiquer avec leurs familles, mais, assaillis par la bande mentionnée plus haut, leur vie a été exposée au plus grand péril. L'un d'eux, le nommé Antoine Sérétaki, serait massacré, aussitôt sa descente à terre, s'il ne se jetait pas à la mer pour regagner le voilier qui l'avait conduit; son compagnon, le nommé Draconicoli, a disparu, et son sort ne peut qu'inspirer de vives inquiétudes.

Vous conviendrez, M. le Ministre, que ces faits déplorables, ajoutés à tant d'autres, ne laissent pas que de faire peser une grande responsabilité sur le Gouvernement Hellénique, les engagements mêmes qu'il prend à l'égard des Crétois désireux de se rapatrier devenant non-seulement illusoires, mais tournant, pour la plupart, au préjudice de ces malheureux.

En vous priant de prendre acte de ma présente communication, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) PHOTIADES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to Safvet Pasha.

Excellence,

Athènes, le 9 Décembre, 1868.

J'AI l'honneur de transmettre à votre Excellence, ci-joint, copie de la note que j'ai adressée à M. Delyanni à l'occasion de l'attentat dont le commis de notre Consul-Général à Syra a été dernièrement l'objet.

J'ai, &c.
(Signed) PHOTIADES.

Inclosure 6 in No. 92.

Photiades Bey to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Le 22 Novembre, 1868.
4 Décembre,

LE Consul-Général de la Sublime Porte à Syra m'a annoncé que son premier commis, M. Xantaki, a été attaqué ces derniers jours par des Crétois armés de bâtons, et qu'il reçut des coups qui lui causèrent de graves blessures. M. le Préfet a vu la victime de l'attentat et constaté de ses propres yeux son état.

D'après mes récentes informations les auteurs de cette odieuse agression, commise en plein jour contre un employé du Consulat-Général Ottoman, n'ont pas encore été arrêtés.

En signalant à votre sérieuse attention ce déplorable incident, je saisis, &c.

(Signed) PHOTIADES.

No. 93.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 4, 1869.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, December 28, 1868.

I HAD the honour to receive yesterday evening your Lordship's despatches by the messenger Bagge, and I called upon Prince Gortchakoff to-day, to have some further conversation with his Excellency respecting the differences which have arisen between Turkey and Greece. His Excellency said that instructions had been sent to the Russian Ambassador at Paris to accept the programme of Her Majesty's Government for the deliberations of the Conference to be held on the subject, and he hoped that there would be no difficulty in arriving at an understanding as to the advice which should be given at Constantinople and Athens, with a view to the preservation of peace. I answered that while I felt equal confidence with his Excellency in a satisfactory settlement of the question I thought it important towards the attainment of that object, that he should be made fully acquainted with the language which you had held to Baron Brunnow, previously to accepting the proposal for a Conference, and I quoted to him from your Lordship's despatch of the 18th instant, the paragraphs in which you inform me that you had stated to the Russian Ambassador on that day, that Her Majesty's Government were most anxious to take no step in the matter except in conjunction with Russia, and that there was no wish to bear harshly on Greece, or to leave out of consideration the strong national feelings which had prompted her late proceedings, but you hoped, though the Russian Government might not sympathize with the Turks, that as a want of sympathy does not imply a want of justice, if the provocations offered to Turkey were fairly considered, Russia would join in giving such advice to Greece as it would be manifestly her interest to adopt.

Prince Gortchakoff said that he would be found entirely impartial in considering what concessions the King of Greece could make to the Porte. For instance, he said, he was of opinion that the Greek Government should engage to prevent the organisation of armed bands in Greek territory; to cause an inquiry to be made into the complaint of alleged violence against subjects of the Porte; and to give due protection to refugees wishing to leave the country; but, on the other hand, it would be necessary to consider whether the King had not been obliged by the Greek Constitution to decline the demand made upon him with respect to armed blockade-runners, and to inquire how far it might be possible to satisfy the Porte upon this subject with regard to the future.

I then read to him an extract from your Lordship's despatch of the 19th instant, in which you report that you had stated to Baron Brunnow on that day that Her Majesty's Government had no wish, as they had no such intention themselves, that the Emperor should take part against the Greeks; but that, as His Imperial Majesty was known to be just, you felt assured that if he would fairly weigh the evidence respecting the acts committed by the Greeks, and the amount of satisfaction demanded by the Porte, there would be no disagreement with Her Majesty's Government as to the advice that should be given both at Constantinople and at Athens. I also touched upon your Lordship's fears as to the inconveniences which might arise if the Conference were to discuss any question beyond that of the re-establishment of friendly relations between Turkey and Greece, and his Excellency assured me that he entirely concurred in your Lordship's opinion on that point.

No. 94.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 4, 1869.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to Prince Gortchakoff, as reported in your despatch of the 28th ultimo, respecting the proposed Conference on the subject of the differences between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 95.

The Earl of Clarendon to Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, January 4, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 2nd instant, informing me that the Government of the Emperor consider it of importance that the Conference, having for its object the settlement of the questions now pending between Turkey and Greece, should assemble without delay; and I have the honour to state to your Excellency that full powers will immediately be sent to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, to enable him to take part in the Conference, as the Representative of Her Majesty's Government.

I have at the same time to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the meeting of the Conference will not be delayed beyond the 9th of January.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 96.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 5, 1869.

I HAVE been informed by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, that the Grand Vizier had expressed to M. Bourée the wish of the Porte that the opening of the Conference should be postponed till the 16th of January, while the Ottoman ports would still be closed to the Greek flag at the time now fixed, which according to the calculation of the Turkish Ambassador at Paris is the 20th or 21st of the present month.

I have to instruct your Excellency to acquaint the Grand Vizier that Her Majesty's Government strongly recommend the Porte not to insist upon the Conference being postponed. You will say that the European Powers are looking forward with anxiety to its early meeting; and you will add that as the basis on which the Conference is assembled is fixed, and the limits within which its deliberations are to be confined are strictly laid down beforehand, its sittings must be few in number.

Furthermore, you will point out to the Grand Vizier that inasmuch as war has not been declared between Turkey and Greece, no operations of a warlike character should be undertaken until it is ascertained what has been the result of the Conference.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 97.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 5, 1869.

THE Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris of 1856 having agreed to meet by their Representatives in Conference at Paris, with a view to a settlement of the existing differences between Turkey and Greece, the Queen has been pleased to approve of your

Excellency representing Her Majesty on that occasion ; and I am accordingly to convey to you such instructions as may be requisite for your guidance.

Your Excellency is well acquainted with the particulars of the difference which the Powers desire to terminate, and you have in your possession copies of all the correspondence in which Her Majesty's Government have been engaged in this matter.

You are therefore fully informed of the conditions on which Her Majesty's Government have consented to take part in this Conference, and of the limits within which all the Powers have agreed that its deliberations should be confined.

As the Conference will consist of the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris, Greece, not being one of those Powers, could not be represented in it. But at the same time it would be obviously unjust that Greece should not have the opportunity of stating her case before the Conference, and contesting, if she desires to do so, the justice of the Turkish demands, or pleading her inability, from whatever cause, to comply with them.

Beyond this, the Greek Representative would have no right to be heard, particularly if he should seek to advance a claim to the annexation of Crete to the Hellenic Kingdom, or to engage the Powers to impose upon the Porte conditions as to the future government of the island. The Powers having for themselves renounced any intention to enter upon either of these questions, any discussion or argument on the part of the Greek Representative applying to them could, of course, not be entertained in the Conference.

But assuming it to be the conclusion of the Conference that Greece has either actively or passively neglected to fulfil its international duties towards Turkey, the remaining point which the Conference will then have to deal with, will be the satisfaction to be obtained for Turkey for wrongs done to her, and the security which Turkey will have the right to require against the renewal of such wrongs. Happily, the abandonment of the island by the hands of volunteers whose departure from Greece was the immediate cause of the hostile demonstration of the Porte, and the probability that the insurrection will in a very short time be altogether at an end, remove one of the greatest difficulties with which the Conference might have had to deal ; for it might not have been easy to devise means to insure the faithful observance by the Greek Government and people of any engagements entered into by the former to abstain from all future interference in behalf of the insurgents.

Her Majesty's Government certainly could not assent to any combined scheme for upholding the decisions of the Conference, be they what they might, by the intervention of naval force ; and probably few, if any, of the Powers, with the exception of Turkey, represented in the Conference, would be inclined to take a different course : and yet, short of the employment of force, the effectual repression of acts reprovèd by the Conference might not have been easy to effect.

But the Cretan insurrection being at an end, the other demands of Turkey, if found by the Conference to be warranted, may probably be dealt with more easily ; and the Porte may possibly be content with engagements on the part of Greece to refrain from giving encouragement or support, or allowing Greek subjects to give them, to the insurrectionary cause in the island.

Your Excellency is well aware that the great desire of Her Majesty's Government is to see the relations between Turkey and Greece maintained on an amicable footing ; and they would fain hope that the almost general disapproval of Europe which has been called forth by the late conduct of Greece towards its neighbour, will make a due impression on the Greek Government and people, and convince them that, however well-disposed the Powers of Europe may be towards the Greek Kingdom, and however willing they may be to make allowances for the internal difficulties with which it has to contend, they will, nevertheless, not sanction any conduct on its part inconsistent with the law of nations, or calculated to disturb the general peace of Europe.

Her Majesty's Government, anxious to avert the occurrence of events that might threaten the maintenance of peace, and convinced that this feeling is shared by every other Power, think that, by laying down in distinct terms certain principles of public morality and of international law, the Conference may give, though indirectly, a clear and unmistakeable warning to other Provinces where there is reason to apprehend that insurrectionary movements against the authority of the Porte might find encouragement, that the Great Powers of Europe would view with the strongest disapproval any unwarrantable proceedings on the part of such Provinces inconsistent with the principles so laid down by the Conference.

Sir A. Paget to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 6.)

My Lord,

Florence, January 2, 1869.

ALTHOUGH in signifying to the French Government their readiness to take part in the proposed Conference for the settlement of the pending differences between Greece and Turkey, on a formal invitation being addressed to them to this effect, the Italian Government did not make any stipulations as to the limits within which the discussions at the Conference were to be confined; I am, nevertheless, informed, by Count Menabrea, that he is decidedly of opinion that it is most desirable that no other questions but the one actually at issue, and the measures necessary for preventing a recurrence of the present complications, should be touched upon, for he considers that the more strictly the deliberations of the Conference are narrowed within this circle, the less chance will there be of misunderstandings arising between the Powers represented, and consequently of the general peace, which it is the object of the Italian Government to maintain, being disturbed.

Count Menabrea appears to incline rather to the side of Turkey in this dispute. Making every allowance for the national sympathies under which the Greek Government has been acting, he considers that the complaints of the Turkish Government against Greece are well founded, and that the Greek Government is consequently bound to afford adequate satisfaction.

His Excellency assured me again, in an interview which I had with him yesterday, that he had sent instructions in this sense to the Italian Minister at Athens, and also that he continued to give counsels of moderation at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 99.

Safvet Pasha to M. E. Musurus.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by M. E. Musurus, January 7.)

Constantinople, le 5 Janvier, 1869.

PAR suite des difficultés démontrées dans l'application de la mesure d'expulsion des sujets Hellènes, la Sublime Porte vient de décréter quelques dispositions destinées à sauvegarder tant les intérêts du commerce que la sûreté générale de l'Empire.

Ces conditions sont :—

1. Les Traités de la Sublime Porte avec la Grèce se trouvant suspendus par suite de la rupture des relations entre elles, tous les Hellènes établis en Turquie sont placés sous la protection des lois du pays pour toutes les affaires, soit de commerce, soit du ressort de la police, soit de toute autre nature.

2. Sont considérés de vrais sujets Hellènes, ceux qui sont issus de parents sujets Hellènes, ou ceux qui ont acquis cette nationalité en vertu du Protocole de Londres; pour les individus de cette catégorie le Gouvernement Impérial avisera à l'expulsion de ceux dont il ne voudrait plus permettre le séjour dans l'Empire. En conséquence les autorités Impériales auront partout à s'enquérir dûment sur le compte des sujets Hellènes de la catégorie en question afin de discerner les gens honnêtes des gens turbulents, et de les faire connaître au Gouvernement Impérial. Quant aux individus qui, étant sujets Ottomans, sont parvenus à se faire délivrer, soit par l'entremise des Consuls Hellènes, soit d'une autre manière, des passeports Helléniques, ils devront ou abandonner leurs passeports pour se faire réintégrer dans leur nationalité primitive, ou bien quitter l'Empire pour ne plus y retourner, sauf à être considérés comme sujets Ottomans s'ils y retournaient plus tard. Les individus de cette catégorie seront invités à quitter le territoire Ottoman pour aller où ils voudront; et, s'ils ne partent pas dans le délai fixé, ils seront contraints à se soumettre à cet ordre dans les formes requises.

3. Ces dispositions ne modifient en rien la décision prise antérieurement à l'égard de la marine marchande Hellénique.

(Translation.

Constantinople, January 5, 1869.

IN consequence of the difficulties which have arisen in carrying out the measure for expelling Hellenic subjects, the Sublime Porte has issued some Decrees destined to

act as a safeguard to the interests of the commerce as well as to the general safety of the Empire. These conditions are:—

1. The Treaties between the Sublime Porte and Greece being suspended on account of the rupture of relations, all Greeks established in Turkey are placed under the protection of the laws of the country as regards all matters, either of commerce, of police jurisdiction, or of any other kind whatever.

2. Those are considered as real Hellenic subjects who are born of Greek parents, or who have acquired such nationality by virtue of the Protocol of London. With regard to individuals belonging to this category, the Imperial Government will take into consideration the expulsion of such of them whose further stay in the country they would not allow. Therefore the Imperial authorities will everywhere have duly to investigate the character borne by the Greek subjects belonging to the above category, in order to distinguish well-behaved from turbulent persons, and to make them known to the Imperial Government. With regard to individuals who, although Ottoman subjects, have succeeded in obtaining Hellenic passports, either by the intervention of Greek Consuls or by some other means, they must either abandon their passports and be reinstated in their original nationality, or else they must leave the Empire, never to return to it except as Ottoman subjects. Persons belonging to this category will be desired to quit the Ottoman territory to go whither they please; and if they do not depart within the appointed period, they will be compelled to obey this order in the required manner.

3. These orders in no way alter the decision previously arrived at with regard to Greek merchant-vessels.

No. 100.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 24, 1868.

I YESTERDAY informed the Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government strongly recommended the Porte not to resort to the extreme measure of expelling from the Turkish territory the Greeks who conducted themselves peaceably; adding, that it was regarded as unnecessary and impolitic, and likely to be followed by disastrous consequences to Turkey.

The Grand Vizier said, that as a mere rupture of relations with Greece would have been received by the latter with more pleasure than discontent, it had been thought necessary to accompany it with stringent measures.

There was, he said, no intention of carrying the expulsion into execution with unnecessary severity: it would not be enforced against women and children, and the period of grace had been extended, so that there is still a month before it will be in operation.

It is, moreover, certain that few will suffer from it, who had not themselves personally contributed to sustain the insurrection.

His Highness also said, that the persons who, being naturally Turkish subjects, had taken Greek protection, would, if they chose, be allowed to remain under Turkish nationality.

Although the Grand Vizier showed no disposition to give way in the application of the measure of expulsion, I nevertheless believe it will not be indiscriminately carried into effect, and that very many inoffensive Greeks will be allowed to remain undisturbed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 101.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Adrianople reporting the manner in which the news of the rupture of relations with Greece had been received by that important Christian Vilayet.

The recent measure taken by the Porte for the emancipation of the Bulgarian Church has produced the most satisfactory effect upon the population, which now looks to the

Sultan's Government to protect them from the domination of the Greek Hierarchy, and their loyal disposition, to say nothing of a certain irritation and jealousy felt towards the Greeks, is not without its importance at this moment.

I therefore inclose to your Lordship a despatch from Mr. Blunt upon this subject, as well as one reporting the satisfaction that has been given by the introduction of a Christian element into the administration of the province through the appointment of several Christian Muavins.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Vice-Consul Blunt to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Adrianople, December 20, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that on Thursday evening the Governor-General of the Vilayet of Adrianople officially announced to my Hellenic colleague the suspension of the relations between Turkey and Greece, and requested him, by authority from the Sublime Porte, to leave the country.

His Excellency also informed my colleague that "the Hellenic subjects established within his Consular district were to leave the country within the period of fifteen days, and that all the Ottoman ports were closed to the Hellenic flag."

A similar communication has also been forwarded by his Excellency through his subordinate Governors to the Hellenic Consuls in the Provinces of Philippopoli, Gallipoli, Rodosto, and Slimnia.

The news of this rupture with Greece was the very same evening of its receipt publicly published in this city through bulletins of the Local Government paper "Edirneh."

The action of the Porte in this matter is generally approved by the Mahometans and other elements of the population of this place, with the exception of the Greeks.

The latter, while they appear very much discouraged at the serious course the events in Greece are taking, recognize that the conduct of the Hellenic Government has at last forced that of Turkey to do what any other Government in Europe would have done long ago. They, moreover, do not hesitate to blame the Ministry and Chambers of Greece for not having foreseen that public opinion in Europe would not support their offensive policy towards Turkey.

My Hellenic colleague has hauled down his flag, and removed from his residence the arms of Greece. He will leave this on the 22nd instant; and I hear that several Hellenic subjects are endeavouring to obtain papers of Ottoman nationality, in the hope that they will be allowed to remain in the country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. G. BLUNT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Vice-Consul Blunt to Mr. Elliot.

(Extract.)

Adrianople, December 20, 1868.

ON Friday, the 18th instant, a *Te Deum* was sung in the Church of the Bulgarians in this city, in honour of their Ecclesiastical Independence, and prayers were offered to the Almighty for the preservation and glory of the Sultan.

Similar acts of solemnity were to have been celebrated by the Bulgarians on the same day in Philippopolis, and all the towns in this Vilayet, as well as in the Vilayet of the Danube; and I hear that two loyal Addreses from the Bulgarian towns and villages in both Vilayets are in the course of preparation for presentation to His Majesty the Sultan.

Inclosure 3 in No. 101.

Vice-Consul Blunt to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Adrianople, December 20, 1868.

WITH reference to my Report of the 20th October last, on the subject of the appointment of Christian Muavins in this Vilayet, I beg leave to inform your Excellency that the Vali of Adrianople has appointed, with the sanction of the Porte, three of these Muavins for employment in the Provinces of Adrianople, Philippopolis, and Gallipoli.

The Muavin of Philippopolis, Joachim Effendi, is a Bulgarian, was formerly Head Master of the Bulgarian Central School in that Province, and is the author of several Bulgarian and Turkish school books.

The other two Muavins, Zaffiraki Effendi and Fasso Effendi, are both Greeks. Zaffiraki Effendi was formerly Attaché at the Ottoman Embassy in London; and Fasso Effendi held the post of Chief Dragoman of this Vilayet.

The creation of this new office, with a view to import more of the Christian element into the administrative machinery of the provinces, has given general satisfaction, which is very much heightened by the fact that the Vali has not allowed party considerations to influence his selection of the persons he has nominated.

The three new Muavins are persons of intelligence and tact; they have a perfect knowledge of the Turkish language, and considerable administrative experience; and they enjoy the confidence of the authorities, and the esteem and respect of the natives.

Two more Christian Muavins are to be appointed in this Vilayet, one at Slimnia, and the other at Rodosto. The Governor-General, who did me the honour to consult me in regard to the appointment of these Muavins, has decided to nominate a Bulgarian at Slimnia, and an Armenian at Rodosto.

So that of the five Christian Muavins in the Vilayet of Adrianople, two will be Bulgarian, two Greek, and one Armenian.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. G. BLUNT

No. 102.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the note of the Greek Minister here, in answer to the communication of the Porte forwarding him his passports.

As in the answer to the ultimatum given at Athens, M. T. Delyanni retorts upon the Porte the charge of aggression that had been made against his own Government, and appeals to the verdict of Europe to decide which party has neglected their international duties.

M. Delyanni concludes by stating that he puts his countrymen under the protection of the Minister of the United States, which protection is not likely to be recognized by the Turkish Government, who have themselves formed a Commission for the purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 102.

M. T. Delyanni to Safvet Pasha.

M. le Ministre,

Péra, le $\frac{11}{23}$ Décembre, 1868.

J'AI reçu la note que votre Excellence a cru devoir m'adresser en date du $\frac{4}{16}$ Décembre, ainsi que les passeports dont elle était accompagnée.

Les cinq conditions mentionnées dans cette note ne m'ayant pas été officiellement communiquées, il ne m'appartient pas de les discuter. Le monde entier aura bientôt à juger sur qui doit peser la responsabilité des circonstances graves qui pourraient surgir de la crise provoquée par la rupture des relations diplomatiques et commerciales entre la Grèce et la Turquie, que la Sublime Porte Ottomane vient de déclarer

Le Gouvernement du Roi mon auguste Souverain n'a rien négligé pour éviter cette crise. Non seulement il s'est tenu sur le pied d'une neutralité légale vis-à-vis de l'insur-

rection de Candie ; non seulement il a fait tout ce que les institutions constitutionnelles du pays lui permettaient de faire pour éloigner autant que possible toute cause de rixe,—mais encore il a supporté pour cela, pendant plus de deux ans avec patience, toute sorte d'actes d'hostilité, de violence, et d'avanies, commises dans les différentes provinces de l'Empire Ottoman, au préjudice de ses nationaux et de leurs intérêts.

Depuis environ six mois, que j'ai eu l'honneur de représenter Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes et son Gouvernement auprès de la Sublime Porte Ottomane, je n'ai cessé d'être témoin d'actes de cette nature. Arrestations arbitraires et illégales, déportations scandaleuses, saisies de navires Helléniques en plein mer par des bâtiments de guerre Ottomans, confiscations illégales de marchandises appartenant à des Hellènes, et enfin un déni de justice constant et systématique pour toutes les affaires de mes nationaux ; tels sont les faits qui se sont déroulés devant moi, tant à Constantinople même que dans d'autres provinces de l'Empire Ottoman. Et cependant en présence de tant d'infractions flagrantes aux Traités existants, le Gouvernement Hellénique a fait preuve de la plus grande modération. Son Représentant à Constantinople se bornant à signaler à la Sublime Porte toutes ces illégalités, et à en demander la réparation, qu'il n'a jamais obtenue, ne lui en a pas adressé une seule protestation, une seule note irritante. Il ne menait cette conduite, dictée par ses instructions, que dans la crainte d'envénimer les relations, déjà assez tendues, entre les deux pays.

La Sublime Porte Ottomane, méconnaissant toute cette modération, toutes ces dispositions conciliantes du Gouvernement Hellénique, a jugé à propos de procéder brusquement et inopinément à une mesure violente en rompant, pour la quatrième fois depuis trente ans ses relations diplomatiques et commerciales avec la Grèce, sans qu'aucun fait nouveau qui ne se produisit point dans le passé se présentât, justifiant tant soit peu cette rigueur, et sans donner le temps nécessaire pour qu'on ait pu essayer un arrangement. C'est à elle à justifier devant le monde civilisé cette rigueur, et les conséquences qu'elle pourrait entraîner, au préjudice du repos de l'Orient.

Pour moi, regrettant bien vivement que des circonstances aussi pénibles mettent fin à ma mission toute pacifique et conciliante auprès de la Sublime Porte Ottomane, j'ai l'honneur de faire connaître à votre Excellence que je quitte Constantinople, avec les employés de la Légation Royale, par le premier bateau à vapeur des Messageries Impériales de France en partance pour Athènes, après avoir confié la protection de mes nationaux et des intérêts Helléniques en général à la Légation des Etats Unis d'Amérique du Nord.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) T. DELYANNI.

No. 103.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, December 26, 1868.

THE Ottoman Government express themselves determined to protest against a Conference meddling with the internal affairs of Crete, or touching upon the questions of annexation or autonomy.

They look upon the present difficulty as simply one between Turkey and Greece, and regard the insurrection as at an end as far as the population of the island is concerned.

The principle of not recognising the right of foreign Governments to discuss or arrange matters connected with the internal administration of the Empire is considered of such vital importance as to make it impossible for them to give way upon it.

No. 104.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 28, 1868.

THE Russian Ambassador sent to me yesterday afternoon to say, that he had just received a despatch from Prince Gortchakoff, dated the 25th instant, stating that the Governments of the Powers, parties to the Treaty of 1856, had agreed that a Conference, of which the first meeting was fixed for the 2nd of January, should be held at Paris, upon the difference between Turkey and Greece.

Prince Gortchakoff directed General Ignatieff to concert with his colleagues in recom-

mending the Porte not to carry out measures of coercion pending this attempt at mediation; and the General asked me if I was ready to act with him in this sense.

I replied, that being altogether without information with respect to the Conference, neither knowing whether Her Majesty's Government had acquiesced in it, nor whether it was proposed upon a basis which the Turkish Government were likely to consent to, I could not take any step, or offer any advice to them, founded upon Prince Gortchakoff's telegram.

Independently of it, however, I had strongly urged upon the Porte to carry out the measures they had resolved upon with every moderation; and as the information which had reached me from the provinces lead to the conclusion that very needless and improper rigour was being used in certain districts, I was quite prepared to repeat the remarks I had already made, and also to recommend that instructions should be sent to Admiral Hobart to be careful to avoid doing anything to provoke a conflict which it might still be possible to avoid.

I consequently directed M. Pisani to acquaint the Grand Vizier with the nature of the information that had reached me of the manner in which the expulsion of the Greeks is being carried out; to represent to his Highness that the force of the Porte consists in the moderation it has hitherto shown; but that if the Greeks are thus expelled, it will revolt the feelings of the public in a manner that cannot fail to be injurious to the interests of the Sultan.

M. Pisani reports to-night, that having executed my instructions, he was informed by the Grand Vizier that he was ready to follow my recommendation of carrying out the measure of expulsion with moderation, but that he could not consent to suspend it, nor would he engage to give fresh instructions to Admiral Hobart.

• I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 105.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 29, 1868.

INFORMATION has been received this afternoon that Petropoulaki and his band have given themselves up to the Ottoman Commanders in Crete.

It is also stated that the Provisional Government have resolved upon quitting the island.

Should this all prove to be correct, there may be reason for regarding it as the virtual end of the insurrection.

The Governor-General of Crete had informed Admiral Hobart that if he could stop the conveyance of supplies to the volunteers for three weeks, he would guarantee their being forced to surrender, and the result seems to have borne out his calculation.

The "Crete" and the "Enosis" having been kept shut up by Admiral Hobart in the harbour of Syra, the volunteers are represented as having been nearly starved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 106.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, December 27, 1868.

THE main body of the Hellenic volunteers with their Chiefs, the elder Petropoulakis, Mitza, and Tzika, having been dislodged from the strong positions they held in Ayios-Vassilios and on the slopes of Mount Ida, have made for Kallikrati, with the object of forcing their entry into Sphakia. Their losses during the late encounters with the troops who have been pursuing them, are officially estimated at 400 killed, besides several prisoners; while according to native reports, not more than 100 have been killed.

On the 22nd instant a skirmish occurred at Asomatos, resulting in a few Turkish casualties, and about twenty-five Hellenic volunteers and native insurgents made prisoners.

The volunteers and insurgents are reported to be in great straits, and their actual condition must be all the more desperate owing to the non-arrival of reinforcements and supplies by the blockade-runner.

One of the rebel captains, Nicholas Koskina, having secretly visited his native village of Perivolia on the night of the 22nd instant, a Greek spy betrayed him to the authorities. The house in which he was hidden was soon surrounded by a body of armed irregulars, expressly dispatched from Canea, who killed Koskina, as also one of his followers, as the two were making their escape.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S. *December 28.*—The Hellenic volunteers, with the two Petropoulakis, Tzika, Mitza, besides Khionia, and some other Chiefs, having entered Askypho, were soon after blockaded by columns of troops converging through Selia, Somaropolis, Anapolis, and Krapí, commanded respectively by Mehmet Ali, Redif, Omer, Shevket, and Ahmet Pashas, and Reshid Bey. Seeing that all resistance was hopeless, they surrendered to the number of some 600, with the exception of Leonidas Petropoulakis, Mitza, Khionia, and about 300 of their followers and some native insurgents. Those that so surrendered have been sent to Kalyvas to be embarked on board the "Kossova" Turkish ship, pending their removal to Greece. The band, under the leadership of the three latter Chiefs having made their escape, are stated to be endeavouring to form a junction with the insurgents at Lasethe, headed by Korakas and Sphakianaki.

About 250 other volunteers being at Franco-Castello, have equally laid down their arms, and are to be also conveyed to Suda Bay by a Turkish frigate.

On or about the 21st instant, the French Consul having interceded with the Governor-General on behalf of forty Hellenic volunteers in jail, and who had been sentenced to death by a court-martial, his Excellency consented to spare their lives on condition that the French Consul would exert himself to procure the submission of Petropoulakis and all his followers, besides that of any native insurgent Chiefs. My French colleague accordingly wrote in this sense to Petropoulakis that day, and again on the 23rd.

The reply came from Askypho on Christmas day, to the effect that the contents of M. Champoiseau's letters having been communicated to all concerned, the terms proposed had been accepted; with an additional request that French ships should be sent to the coast of Ayios-Vassilios to take them over to Greece. Before the French Consul's reply in the affirmative could reach Askypho, and just as the "Ville de Marseille," to be escorted by the "Salamdre," were about being dispatched, intelligence of the surrender of the volunteers as specified above came to the Turkish authorities.

Kriaris, K. Voludakis, Hadji Mikhalis, Goghonis, and other Cretan leaders, are still under arms.

C. H. D.

No. 107.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 25, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of yesterday's date respecting the reported intention of the Hellenic Government to withdraw a large amount of specie from the National Bank, in defiance of the statutes of that institution, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a further note which I have addressed to M. Delyanni, forwarding the copy of a letter from the General Manager of the Ionian Bank on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 107.

Mr. Erskine to M. Delyanni.

Sir,

Athens, December 25, 1868.

WITH reference to the note I had the honour of addressing to you yesterday, respecting the reported intention of the Hellenic Government to withdraw a large amount of specie from the National Bank, in defiance of the statutes of this institution, I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by the General Manager of the Ionian Bank, stating that the measure in question, if carried out,

would oblige the Ionian Bank to suspend specie payments, and protesting against the Hellenic Government for all losses which may be caused thereby to that establishment.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 107.

Mr. Merlin to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Ionian Bank, Athens, December 24, 1868.

I HAVE been informed that the Hellenic Government contemplates either the issue of paper money having "cours forcé," or the withdrawal of the specie from the National Bank of Greece, and making the notes of that establishment a legal tender; the effect of which will be entirely to destroy their money value, put an end to all exchange operations between Greece and Foreign countries, and entail a crisis which will be the ruin of all commercial and banking establishments in this country.

As General Manager of the Ionian Bank, I have to request, Sir, you will inform the Hellenic Government that, foreseeing the necessity the Ionian Bank will be reduced to of stopping specie payments, should the proposed measures be carried into effect, I hereby solemnly protest against the Greek Government for all losses, damages, &c., which may be caused thereby to the Ionian Bank.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. L. W. MERLIN,
Inspector and General Manager.

No. 108.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 29, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a note from M. Delyanni in answer to the remonstrance which was addressed to him by the Representatives of the three Guaranteeing Powers against an alleged attempt, on the part of the Hellenic Government, to force the National Bank to make large pecuniary advances to the State, in violation of its charter.

M. Delyanni does not deny that the Government are seeking to induce the Bank to make the advances in question, which they are prepared, if necessary, to facilitate by constituting the Bank paper a legal tender; and he justifies the determination of the Government to persist in this course by the assertion that it is authorized by a law passed at the close of last session; the terms of which were cited in my despatch to your Lordship of the 24th instant, viz.: "That the Government are empowered to raise a loan of 100,000,000 drachmas, by pledging or mortgaging the real or moveable property of the State, and by seeking also for other resources." It would, therefore, appear that the sole ground on which the Government claim the right to compel the National Bank to infringe its charter, is a loosely-worded clause at the end of an Act relating to a totally different matter, and which it is impossible to believe the Chamber ever intended should apply to so vital a question as that of the abrogation of the rights and privileges of the National Bank.

I have communicated the contents of this document to the Governor of the Bank, M. George Stavros, who informed me that the Government are still urging him by every means in their power to comply with their demands. He declared, however, that nothing less than actual force would induce him to acquiesce in any scheme which was forbidden by the statutes of the establishment under his charge. The Government, he said, already owed the Bank upwards of 13,000,000 drachmas (464,285*l.*) whilst its whole capital amounted to only 15,000,000 drachmas (535,714*l.*). They now demanded a loan of 50,000,000 drachmas (1,785,714*l.*), of which 10,000,000 (357,142*l.*) were to be paid in specie, thus actually absorbing the whole sum on which the paper currency of the kingdom was based; whilst the remaining 40,000,000 drachmas (1,428,571*l.*) would be advanced by the Bank in the shape of notes; a fresh issue to that amount being authorized and made a legal tender by the Government, although they have not legally the power to take any such step.

M. Stavros requested me to entreat Her Majesty's Government to prevent the ruin of an establishment which owed its existence entirely to benevolent foreigners, and which has continued to maintain its credit unimpaired through all the vicissitudes suffered by the Greek nation since the establishment of its independence. I told M. Stavros that I would report what he had said to your Lordship; but that I did not see how Her Majesty's Government could prevent the Greek Government from having recourse to the threatened measure, however disastrous it might appear to the real interests of Greece, except on the ground that a large debt is owing to Great Britain by this country, and that we had, consequently, a right to see that our creditor did not squander the national resources on objects which are not essential to existence. But I advised him to avoid driving the Government to extremities by advancing them a sum sufficient for their immediate wants without seriously endangering the stability of the bank.

I have already forwarded to your Lordship a copy of a protest addressed to me by the General Manager of the Ionian Bank, to which, I presume, M. Delyanni will reply in some such terms as those he has used to the Representatives of the Three Guaranteeing Powers.

Inclosure in No. 108.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Erskine.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le $\frac{15}{27}$ Décembre, 1868.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir l'office que vous m'avez adressé le $\frac{12}{24}$ de ce mois, à la suite de l'information qui vous a été donnée par le Gouverneur de la Banque que des démarches auraient été faites par le Gouvernement auprès du Conseil de cet établissement, de nature à altérer gravement les conditions de son existence.

La prospérité et l'avenir de la Banque Nationale touchent de si près le Gouvernement du Roi que je ne puis que vous remercier de l'intérêt que vous lui portez. Telle a toujours été en effet la sollicitude du Gouvernement pour cette institution de crédit, fondée par lui, que lorsqu'en 1848, à la suite des crises révolutionnaires qui ont amené une crise financière dans presque toute l'Europe, son crédit se trouva gravement compromis, le Gouvernement n'hésita point à lui venir en aide, en donnant, sans compensation aucune, cours forcé à son papier, bien que cette mesure ne fût pas sans péril pour lui, parceque la Grèce aussi se ressentait à cette époque de cet esprit révolutionnaire qui bouleversait les autres Etats.

Le Gouvernement du Roi ne pense pas avoir proposé rien de contraire à l'institution de la Banque en lui demandant un emprunt dans les circonstances actuelles de la patrie, d'autant plus qu'il lui a offert en même temps, pour lui faciliter la réalisation de cet emprunt, de lui garantir au besoin le cours forcé de ses billets. Son patriotisme lui commandait, au contraire, de se signaler spontanément dans un moment critique pour le pays, auquel elle doit son existence et sa prospérité, et d'aller au devant des besoins du Gouvernement, en imitant le noble exemple que lui a donné, il y a deux ans, la Banque d'Italie. Son dévouement ne lui aurait causé le moindre préjudice; elle aurait pu retirer même de cet emprunt de nouveaux bénéfices, comme elle a retiré de tous les emprunts qu'elle a jusqu'à présent faits.

Le Gouvernement doit insister sur sa demande, parceque les plus grands intérêts du pays le lui commandent. Il croit d'autant plus y avoir droit, que la Banque a jusqu'à présent fait plusieurs emprunts au Gouvernement, sans que ses bases fussent altérées ou son existence compromise, et qu'une loi dernièrement votée en vue des circonstances actuelles l'autorise à avoir recours à diverses ressources.

Selon mes informations le nombre des actionnaires étrangers de la Banque est très limité, et quant à des créanciers de cet établissement, il n'en existe point. Tous ses bilans représentent crédateurs ses comptes avec l'Europe [*sic*]. Dans celui de 30 Juin, 1867, je vois figurer à son actif la somme importante de 1,911,754 drachmas 9 lepta (60,705 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s.) en effet sur l'Europe.

Mais en supposant même qu'elle eût d'actionnaires et de créanciers étrangers, la Banque, comme Société Anonyme et Etablissement National Hellénique, demeure exclusivement soumise au Gouvernement et aux lois du pays, et aucun étranger qui s'y trouverait intéressé n'a le droit d'invoquer utilement une intervention quelconque de son Gouvernement, surtout lorsqu'il s'agit d'actes du Gouvernement nullement contraires aux lois du pays.

C'est la déférence que le Gouvernement du Roi doit aux recommandations qui lui

sont faites au nom d'une Puissance dont la Grèce a reçu tant de bienfaits, qui m'a engagé à vous donner toutes ces explications, en répondant à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

No. 109.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 29, 1868.

IT has of late become so difficult to see M. Delyanni except on his weekly day of reception, that I could not, until yesterday, succeed in acquainting him with the contents of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, stating that Greece would incur a very heavy responsibility if she persisted in a course of policy that might endanger the maintenance of peace.

On the 24th instant, however, I read that despatch to M. Spiliotakis, the first official after M. Delyanni in the Greek Foreign Office, who undertook to report your Lordship's observations to his chief, and to request that he would see me at his earliest convenience.

When I at length had an opportunity of explaining the views of Her Majesty's present Government to M. Delyanni, he did not make any attempt to refute your Lordship's unqualified censure of the course which had been pursued by the Greek Government in their quarrel with Turkey, but turned the conversation and proceeded at once to inform me that the French and Prussian Ministers, and the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, had acquainted him with the intended meeting of a Conference at Paris to settle the differences between Greece and Turkey, and that they had urged the Greek Government to avoid, in the meantime, doing anything to provoke a conflict.

On my observing that I was without instructions upon the subject, M. Delyanni mentioned that he had heard from M. Braila that Her Majesty's Government had likewise consented to take part in the Conference.

The Greek Government, he continued, had no wish to precipitate hostilities with Turkey, or to show any want of deference to the advice of the Great Powers, but the Porte was making preparations for war on so great a scale that Greece could not remain a passive spectator of what was being done by her neighbour, but must continue to improve her means of defence, and be ready, if necessary, to give expression to the increasing irritation which was felt here at the harsh measures which had been adopted against Greek subjects residing in Turkey.

As M. Delyanni professed to be animated by conciliatory intentions, I called his attention to the menacing language used in the official and semi-official publications of the Greek Government.

No. 110.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 30, 1868.

I HAVE this morning received a letter from Hobart Pasha, dated Syra yesterday, containing the important intelligence that all the volunteers in Crete, to the number of about 1,000, have surrendered, and are to arrive at Syra this day in a Turkish line-of-battle ship.

Both the Petropoulakis were taken; but the younger one succeeded in effecting his escape, and the father and two or three other Chiefs are kept prisoners until the son can be recaptured.

Admiral Hobart has likewise forwarded to me the inclosed copy of the terms of surrender. He is to use his discretion as to where the prisoners are to be landed, and he informs me that he shall do everything in his power, with the assistance of the Commander of the "Forbin," to prevent their landing from creating disturbance at Syra.

The Admiral adds that he looks upon the surrender of this body of volunteers as the close of the insurrection.

It has been reported here for the last day or two that the crew of the "Enosis" had been transferred to the steamer "Panhellenion," belonging to the same Company, and that the

latter vessel had proceeded from the Piræus to Nauplia, whence she would go to Crete in the place of the "Enosis," blockaded at Syra by Admiral Hobart; but this report is strenuously denied by the authorities; and Her Majesty's Consul at the Piræus has been unable to ascertain whether there is any foundation for it or not.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

P.S.—Since this despatch was written, I have ascertained from Admiral Moulae that the volunteers in question were pursued by the Turkish troops, and eventually surrounded on the high plateau of Askyfo, in Sphakia, where they capitulated on the 26th instant.

E. M. E.

Inclosure in No. 110.

Conditions proposed by the Military Commander to Volunteers.

1. TOUS les volontaires sans distinction de nationalité et de métier seraient acceptés; leur vie et leurs effets sont complètement garantis.
 2. Les armes seraient déposées par tous les volontaires, et on fera des deux côtés un registre pour les armes, et ces armes seront rendus après le débarquement.
 3. Nous déterminerons l'échelle demandée pour renvoyer tous les volontaires.
 4. Jusqu'au débarquement tous les volontaires seraient nourris et logés par le Gouvernement Impérial.
 5. Les insurgés Crétois qui se trouvent avec les volontaires seraient aussi acceptés, et leur vie est aussi garantie; et ils ne seront pas punis par le Gouvernement Impérial.
- Ces conditions sont garanties.

Le Commandant Militaire,
(Signé) MEHEMED ALI.

No. 111.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8, 1869.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 30, 1868.

THE affair at Syra is fortunately in a fair way of being settled without the actual employment of force. Owing to the surrender of the Greek volunteers in Crete, Hobart Pasha, I imagine, will care less what eventually becomes of the accusation of piracy which he has brought against the "Enosis" before the legal authorities at Syra—his principal object, viz., that of preventing the "Enosis" from carrying provisions and ammunition to the insurgents in Crete, having already been completely attained.

It has, however, been agreed that, pending the trial, the "Enosis" shall not be allowed to leave the port of Syra, and that the Turkish witnesses against the "Enosis" shall make their depositions before a Greek Judge on board the French corvette "Forbin" in Syra harbour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 112.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 8.)

(Extract.)

Paris, January 7 1868.

ON the 2nd instant I read to the Marquis de Lavalette your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, stating the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that coercive measures ought not in any case to be resorted to in order to enforce the recommendations which might be agreed upon at the proposed Conference on the differences between Turkey and Greece. I also gave M. de Lavalette a copy of that despatch.

After some conversation on the subject, M. de Lavalette observed that there did not appear to be any material difference between the views it expressed on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and those which were entertained by the Government of the Emperor. The basis on which the convocation of the Conference was made, was the

Protocol of the Conference of Paris of 1856, which contemplated only the employment of good offices for the settlement of disputes, and in no degree sanctioned the use of force.

I proceeded to tell him, in the terms of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, that upon the conditions therein stated, Her Majesty's Government agreed to be represented in the Conference.

I to-day read this last-mentioned despatch to M. de Lavalette and gave him a copy of it. He said that the contents were quite satisfactory to him.

No. 113.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Paget.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd instant, reporting your communications with Count Menabrea on the present question between Turkey and Greece, and the principles by which the proceedings of the Conference should be governed; and Her Majesty's Government have learnt with much satisfaction that the views of the Italian Government are in accordance with their own on these matters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 114.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 10, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 2, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract from a letter which I have received this morning from Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting the arrival and landing at Syra of the Greek volunteers under Petropoulaki, who were recently captured by the Turkish troops at Askyfo, in Sphakia.

Inclosure in No. 114.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, January 1, 1869.

ON the receipt of the news here of the early expected return, by Turkish frigate, of the volunteers, with Petropoulaki, no Greek would believe it, or, if he did, he affected not to do so, and dared not repeat it, and no measures were taken for their reception or conveyance elsewhere; and yesterday, after the return of "Maggie Smart" from the Piræus, nothing was done.

When the frigate even arrived it was reported she was taking wounded Turks to Constantinople, and that Petropoulaki was doing wonders in Crete. The Turkish frigate has brought 864 in all, of whom 150 are Cretans, and remained outside the harbour till 5 P.M. yesterday, when she began to land them in the little bay south, and just outside the mouth, of the harbour; and then the natives began to be alarmed lest the town should be invaded and pillaged. The 150 Cretans and some others were not landed; and the rest were met outside the town by all the gendarmes and national guards that could be got together, and persuaded to go to the Lazaretto; meantime the "Karteria" was got ready to receive them, and a great number went on board. At 11 P.M., however, they refused to allow the vessel to move, declaring they would stay in Syra some time. At midnight, I believe, "Amphitrite" arrived, and this latter is to take the bulk of them direct to Gythium, and, when on board, their arms will be given by the Turks to the Greek authorities here.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 10.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, January 10, 1869, 12:55 A.M.

IT is hoped that Her Majesty's Government will direct Her Majesty's Representatives to support the following telegram, which is sent by the French Plenipotentiary in the name of the Conference to Athens and Constantinople:—

“ Les Plénipotentiaires des Cours signataires du Traité de Paris, réunis pour rechercher les moyens d'apaiser le différend qui s'est élevé entre la Turquie et la Grèce, accomplissent un premier devoir en faisant connaître aux deux Parties intéressées que la Conférence s'est constituée aujourd'hui.

“ Les réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum remis par le Ministre de Turquie à Athènes au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce se trouvant dès à présent soumises à leur examen, les Puissances ont la persuasion que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan et celui de Sa Majesté Hellénique s'interdiront scrupuleusement tout ce qui serait de nature, en modifiant le *statu quo*, à rendre plus difficile la tâche qu'elles ont acceptée. Elles n'hésitent donc pas à faire appel à la modération de la Sublime Porte et à lui demander de suspendre jusqu'à la clôture des travaux de la Conférence l'exécution des mesures comminatoires annoncées dans l'ultimatum du 11 Décembre, 1868. Elles croient devoir en même temps inviter le Gouvernement Hellénique à prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour empêcher sur son territoire toute manifestation hostile ou toute expédition armée par terre ou par mer qui pourrait faire naître un conflit avec les forces Ottomanes.”

Safvet Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by Musurus Pasha, January 11, 1869.)

M. le Ministre,

Le 30 Décembre, 1868.

MES télégrammes successifs vous ont tenu au courant des circonstances qui ont précédé, et des motifs qui ont rendu indispensable la rupture de nos relations diplomatiques et commerciales avec la Grèce.

La longanimité du Gouvernement Impérial n'a eu, pendant ces deux dernières années, pour effet que d'enhardir le peuple et le Gouvernement Helléniques dans leurs menées; la répression de la rébellion qu'ils ont fomentée en Crète à tant de frais, les a tellement exaspéré que, mettant de côté tout scrupule et toute mesure, ils crurent pouvoir impunément recourir à des actes d'une hostilité ouverte envers nous. Il n'en fallait pas moins pour convaincre enfin l'Europe du parti pris de la Grèce de nous arracher l'Ile de Crète, sans s'arrêter devant le choix de moyens.

Une partie de ce peuple et son Gouvernement à la tête ont cru et croient encore qu'envoyer des bandes recrutées jusque dans ses bagnes et ses prisons pour porter le meurtre et le pillage sur le territoire d'un pays voisin, armer des corsaires pour forcer un blocus, retenir par la force de malheureux réfugiés qu'on a attirés chez soi par la ruse et leur faire endurer toutes les souffrances de la misère et de la faim, maltraiter et même assassiner les sujets de son voisin traversant paisiblement un territoire neutre, ne tenir aucun de ses engagements, et, en un mot, fouler aux pieds les Traités, le droit international, et la morale universelle, sont des moyens parfaitement légitimes, et qu'après les avoir largement employés on peut encore se représenter aux yeux du monde comme un peuple jeune, vivace, généreux et victime.

Devant une pareille absence de toute notion du juste et de l'injuste, du bien et du mal, est-il étonnant que tous les efforts conciliants de la Sublime Porte aient échoué, et que même les conseils réitérés des Grandes Puissances soient demeurés sans résultats?

La dignité du Gouvernement Impérial et ses intérêts les plus chers, aussi bien que l'opinion publique du pays, lui faisaient un devoir impérieux de chercher une solution propre à faire cesser cet état de choses. Deux moyens s'offraient à lui: Déclarer immédiatement la guerre à la Grèce, ou rompre seulement ses relations diplomatiques et commerciales avec elle. La Grèce nous avait certes fourni assez de griefs pour légitimer amplement une déclaration de guerre de notre part. Elle n'avait plus dans ces derniers temps à faire valoir même le futile prétexte de venir au secours d'une insurrection qui avait cessé depuis plusieurs mois. Tous ses efforts se dirigeaient vers le but de rallumer un feu qu'elle se désespérait de voir éteint. La supériorité de nos forces de terre et de mer nous assurait d'un succès prompt et complet. Mais nous avons pensé que

l'état actuel de l'Europe, toute étincelle lancée quelque part pourrait mettre le feu à une véritable traînée de poudre. Ne voulant pas assumer sur nous la responsabilité de pareils malheurs, nous préférâmes nous arrêter au second parti, qui peut encore nous mener à notre but de pacification, sans effusion de sang.

En effet, la Grèce tire ses principales ressources de son commerce avec nos ports, et ce n'est qu'en Turquie que les Hellènes trouvent un champ assez grand à exploiter. Nous croyons donc que cette obstination, fruit d'une ambition effrénée et inassouvie, qui n'a pas voulu fléchir devant la raison, la justice, le respect du droit et des stipulations internationales, et la déférence due surtout par la Grèce aux conseils des Grandes Puissances, cette obstination, dis-je, cèdera devant le cri des intérêts matériels.

Une dernière tentative d'arrangement, la seule que les circonstances pouvaient autoriser, fut encore essayée. Résumant nos griefs en cinq points, nous mîmes la Grèce en demeure de les réparer, et nous lui donnâmes un délai de cinq jours pour s'y décider. Cette tentative échoua également, et je vous envoie, ci-joint, une copie de l'incroyable réponse de M. Delyanni à l'ultimatum remis par Photiades Bey,* ainsi que la réfutation de cette réponse.

Le Gouvernement Impérial aurait-il pu, comme on a voulu le lui demander, se borner à la rupture de ses relations diplomatiques avec la Grèce ? Mais cette mesure n'eût servi qu'à assurer à ce pays, déjà si peu scrupuleux, une liberté d'action complète, en lui enlevant jusqu'aux apparences de la gêne. Néanmoins, nous nous serions certainement contentés d'y ajouter la rupture des relations commerciales, en permettant aux sujets Hellènes de continuer à résider paisiblement parmi nous, sans les graves inconvénients développés dans le document responsif ci-haut mentionné.

Cependant, on peut être certain que les autorités Impériales portent et porteront jusqu'au bout, dans l'exécution de cette dernière mesure, tous les ménagements et tous les adoucissements compatibles avec la mesure en elle-même.

Le Gouvernement Impérial a la conscience d'avoir agi avec la plus grande modération. Ce n'est qu'après avoir bien étudié l'étendue de ses droits et de ses devoirs envers ses peuples, aussi bien que des exigences des intérêts et de la sûreté du pays, qu'il s'est arrêté aux résolutions dont il s'agit. Une plus grande longanimité eût été une faiblesse et un danger ; et nous sommes heureux de constater que l'opinion publique, dans notre pays, comme dans le reste de l'Europe, a pleinement approuvé notre conduite.

La sagesse des grandes Puissances Européennes et leur sollicitude pour la paix de l'Orient peuvent précipiter la solution pacifique du différend. Mais nous n'hésitons pas à le déclarer—le moyen qui semble avoir prévalu dans leurs délibérations comme pouvant atteindre le but désiré ne nous paraît nullement de nature à amener un résultat pratique.

Ainsi que je me suis empressé de vous en informer par le télégraphe, il nous sera impossible d'accepter le principe d'une Conférence sans que le programme de ses délibérations soit connu d'avance. Nous avons en même temps déclaré que nous ne pourrions faire aucune concession relativement aux cinq conditions posées par nous à la Grèce, et qui ont été calculées de façon à ne représenter que le minimum de ce qu'il faut pour mettre nos relations avec la Grèce sur le pied du droit commun, et pour faire cesser une hostilité injuste et anormale. La moindre concession sous ce rapport impliquerait l'autorisation donnée par l'Europe de continuer cette hostilité. Elles sont tellement légitimes, et si universellement admises dans les relations de toutes les nations entre elles, que leur acceptation ne peut en rien porter atteinte ni à la dignité ni aux intérêts légitimes de la Grèce.

De plus, notre Plénipotentiaire ne pourra, dans aucun cas, consacrer par sa présence toute délibération ou discussion qui, sortant de la question pendante, s'engagerait sur l'île de Crète, ou tenterait d'aborder toute autre question territoriale ou administrative de l'Empire.

Nous espérons que nos communications à cet égard seront prises en sérieuse considération ; et je vous autorise, M. l'Ambassadeur, à donner lecture et à laisser copie à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique de la présente dépêche, ainsi que de la réfutation sus-mentionnée de la réponse du Gouvernement Hellénique.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) SAFVET.

Memorandum containing Turkish Remarks on the Greek Reply to the Ultimatum.

PAR l'ultimatum adressé au Gouvernement Hellénique en date du 11 Décembre, la Sublime Porte s'est vue dans la nécessité de mettre, comme condition au maintien de ses relations avec la Grèce, la cessation d'un état de choses incompatible avec les rapports de bon voisinage nécessaires aux deux pays et contraire à tous les principes de la morale politique.

Il n'est assurément aucun Etat de l'Europe qui aurait supporté de la part d'un Etat limitrophe des actes tels que ceux qui ont enfin épuisé la patience du Gouvernement Impérial, comme il n'est personne qui n'eût jugé que plus de modération fût devenue faiblesse.

L'honneur du Gouvernement Impérial n'aurait pas pu lui permettre de rester spectateur résigné des flagrantes hostilités ouvertement ourdies en Grèce, avec le concours public des autorités Helléniques, en vue de renouveler en Crète l'insurrection apaisée avec des précautions d'humanité, de temporisation et de douceur, dont tout Etat civilisé aurait droit de se glorifier et qui devaient contraster si fâcheusement avec les actes commis par les volontaires Hellènes recrutés en partie, ainsi que l'ont constaté toutes les correspondances diplomatiques, dans les bagnes de Chalcis, de Nauplie, et de Samie, et parmi les brigands dont l'envoi en Crète a pu seul délivrer l'Acarmanie, la Phthiotide, l'Attique, et les faubourgs mêmes d'Athènes.

Des rapports honorables devenaient impossibles, et le Gouvernement Impérial a dû rompre des relations pour lesquelles le droit des gens n'a pas cherché jusqu'à ce jour de dénomination. Il l'a fait pour ramener la Grèce à une plus saine appréciation de ce que se doivent les unes aux autres les nations entrées dans le concert Européen.

La note responsive du Cabinet d'Athènes, en date du 15 Décembre, nous a paru affligeante à tous égards, moins encore par le refus de satisfaire aux justes réclamations de la Sublime Porte que par les accusations qui la remplissent et qui témoignent de la résolution du Gouvernement Hellénique de persister à représenter les entraînements passionnés qu'un parti turbulent et sans frein a le triste privilège de populariser et de perpétuer en Grèce.

L'opinion publique a été éclairée sur les véritables motifs et le caractère des regrettables événements dont la Crète a été le théâtre par le rapport que son Altesse le Grand Vizir a soumis à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, le 1 Mars, 1868.

Nous renverrons à la lecture de cet important document tous les amis de la justice et de la vérité.

On ne saurait s'expliquer comment le Gouvernement Hellénique peut dire que ce ne sont pas les menées des Comités qui ont produit et entretenu l'insurrection de Crète, lorsqu'il est de notoriété publique que les principaux membres de ces Comités ont rédigé tout le dossier révolutionnaire, y compris le fameux décret d'annexion, et que ce sont eux qui ont pu persuader aux Crétois égarés que la Grèce leur donnerait des travaux publics, des routes, des établissements de crédit, et les autres bienfaits de la civilisation, toutes choses que ce pays n'avait qu'à un bien moindre degré que la Turquie. Mais c'est surtout en rallumant des haines de religion entre les Chrétiens de rite Orthodoxe et les Musulmans, les uns et les autres fils de la Crète, n'ayant qu'une même patrie et des intérêts identiques, qu'ils sont parvenus à envénimer la situation, et au fond, tous les appels faits à l'humanité de l'Europe ne firent que la convier à s'associer, comme les Hellènes, à une guerre de religion.

On connaît aujourd'hui les circonstances qui ont contraint une partie notable de la population Crétoise à quitter ses foyers pour aller traîner sur la terre étrangère une existence remplie d'angoisses et de privations.

On sait que l'appât de pillage fut un des stimulants offerts aux bandes de mercénaires pour raffermir leur courage et les conduire en Crète; on sait que des excès barbares, et rendus encore plus odieux par la connivence des officiers Hellènes qui les commandaient, furent commis par ces bandes venues de la Grèce, et qu'on a employé le plus implacable terrorisme en vue de forcer les paisibles insulaires à participer à la rébellion ou à s'expatrier en masse. Le Gouvernement Hellénique n'ignore pas ces tristes réalités; mais il a trouvé plus commode et plus profitable à la cause dont il s'est rendu le complice, d'accumuler dans sa note du 15 Décembre des accusations diffamatoires contre les autorités de l'île et les troupes Ottomanes, et d'insinuer que le refus de la Sublime Porte d'adhérer à la proposition tendante à faire constater les vœux des Crétois au moyen d'une enquête internationale témoigne de la méfiance que lui inspiraient les dispositions de ses sujets. Est-il besoin de faire observer que si le Gouvernement Impérial n'a pas jugé

à propos d'accepter le principe de l'enquête internationale, bien qu'il n'ait jamais douté de l'esprit d'ordre et des sentiments de fidélité de la grande majorité des Crétois, c'est qu'il a pensé que son application pourrait impliquer de graves inconvénients, en créant un précédent de nature à porter atteinte aux droits de la souveraineté? C'est donc le principe d'une enquête internationale qui a été rejetée par la Sublime Porte, comme la Grèce le ferait si les Puissances venaient lui demander la même chose pour rechercher les causes du brigandage qui infeste presque tout le Royaume Hellénique, ou pour s'enquérir des vœux des habitants des Iles Ioniennes.

L'argument tiré de l'embarquement précipité des Crétois sur les bâtiments étrangers a eu du succès, il faut en convenir, et les allégations des Hellènes, multipliées par les cent cinquante journaux qui se publient en Grèce ont réussi à tromper l'opinion publique, dans un moment où les faits n'étaient pas éclaircis, tandis que la dignité silencieuse de la Sublime Porte n'a pas toujours été comprise. Mais qu'on se souvienne que le rapport de l'Amiral Simon a démontré que si un ensemble de calomnies peut, pour un temps très limité, suspendre la bonne foi de l'Europe, la vérité ne tarde pas à se faire jour. Tout le monde se rappellera que 3,000 Crétois, contraints à s'embarquer par des dangers imaginaires, déclarèrent aux officiers Français qui les ont interrogés, qu'ils n'avaient été jamais, ou un des leurs, offensé par les soldats Ottomans.

Il serait oiseux de discuter longuement les considérations développées par le Cabinet d'Athènes dans sa note précitée, pour justifier son refus formel de satisfaire à l'ultimatum par lequel la Sublime Porte a réclamé qu'il prit l'engagement: 1, de disperser les bandes de volontaires dernièrement organisées dans différentes parties du Royaume et d'empêcher la formation de nouvelles bandes; 2, de désarmer les corsaires "Enosis," "Crète," et "Panhellénion," ou en tout cas de leur fermer l'accès des ports Helléniques; 3, d'accorder aux émigrés Crétois non seulement l'autorisation de retourner dans leurs foyers, mais encore une aide et une protection efficace; 4, de punir, conformément aux lois, ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'agression contre les militaires et les sujets Ottomans, et d'accorder aux familles des victimes de ces attentats une juste indemnité; 5, de suivre désormais une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités existants et au droit des gens. Il suffit d'énoncer les considérations émises à cet égard par le Cabinet d'Athènes pour convaincre tout juge impartial et de la légitimité des réclamations en question et des sentiments qui ont dicté leur rejet.

En ce qui concerne les deux premières demandes, à savoir, la dispersion des bandes de volontaires et le désarmement des navires armés en course, il est formellement déclaré que les institutions du pays ne permettent pas au Gouvernement d'enchaîner la liberté individuelle, quels qu'en soient les écarts, et qu'il ne saurait d'aucune manière empêcher des actes contre lesquels les lois se trouveraient désarmées.

Il serait donc permis en Grèce à tous les meneurs, à tous les ennemis de l'ordre, de recruter et d'enrôler les volontaires, d'organiser des bandes, de les équiper et de les armer au vu et au su de tout le monde, sous les yeux mêmes des autorités, dans le but avoué de fomenter le désordre et la rébellion dans les provinces d'un Etat voisin en paix avec le Royaume! Il serait également permis aux navires sous pavillon Hellénique de s'armer en guerre dans les ports de ce pays, de se livrer régulièrement au transport de bandes armées, toujours dans le même but, et d'attaquer à coup de canon—l'incident récent de Syra en offre un exemple nouveau—les bâtiments de guerre de l'Empire Ottoman.

Si le Gouvernement Hellénique était fondé à tenir ce langage, l'on devrait en conclure que le droit des gens n'existe pas pour la Grèce, qui pourtant, vivant parmi les Etats de l'Europe civilisée, l'invoque elle-même sans cesse, agissant ainsi comme le ferait un particulier qui, se déclarant indépendant des lois de son pays toutes les fois qu'il serait agresseur, recourrait aux Tribunaux dès qu'il se verrait attaqué. Si de pareilles théories étaient admissibles, 2,000 Albanais pourraient aller en Acarnanie et jusqu'aux portes d'Athènes faire ce que les volontaires Hellènes vont faire en Crète, et la Sublime Porte serait aussi fondée que la Grèce à répondre que ses institutions ne lui permettent pas de s'opposer à la formation et à l'invasion de bandes qui auraient porté sur le sol Hellénique le pillage et l'incendie. La Sublime Porte, en pareil cas, aurait sévi contre les coupables, persuadée qu'il y a quelque chose de supérieur aux lois intérieures d'un pays; c'est le droit des gens et la morale universelle.

Le Gouvernement Impérial se refuse à admettre qu'un tel état de barbarie constitue un ordre de choses légal en Grèce. Il y a effectivement des dispositions formelles dans la législation du Royaume contre les rassemblements et les recrutements de corps armés effectués sans l'ordre du Gouvernement. Nous citerons textuellement l'Article 127 du Code Pénal de Grèce, conçu dans les termes suivants:—

"Sont punis de mort ceux qui sans ordre ou permission du Gouvernement rassemblent

ou enrôlent seuls ou au moyen d'autres des corps de troupes ou des soldats, de même que ceux qui, en connaissance de cause et de leur propre mouvement, se rassemblent de cette façon pour une expédition."

L'inexécution de cette disposition est due au mauvais vouloir ainsi qu'aux entraînements des passions qui dominent ce pays. Mais, à moins que le droit des gens ne soit pas une fiction dérisoire, la Sublime Porte devrait-elle tolérer des actes aussi subversifs de l'ordre public Européen, commis à son détriment, et qui constitue une menace perpétuelle contre la tranquillité de ses provinces situées à proximité de la Grèce ? Pourrait-elle enfin souffrir plus longtemps des expéditions dirigées contre l'Empire, lorsqu'elle sait, comme tout le monde, qu'elles sont organisées et effectuées avec le concours des autorités Helléniques et au moyen des fonds fournis par le Gouvernement, qui préfère mettre ses ressources au service d'entreprises inavouables au lieu de les employer à faire honneur à ses dettes envers les trois Puissances Garantes et de développer le bien-être du pays.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique n'hésite pas à déclarer que sa protection a toujours été donnée aux familles Crétoises qui ont exprimée le désir de rentrer dans leurs foyers ; Etrange assertion ! Tout le monde en Grèce a été témoins des cruautés infligées aux Crétois qui osent parler de retourner dans leur pays ; on a vu, en maintes occasions, en présence de la force publique immobile, une populace furieuse assaillir des vieillards et des femmes, les attaquer, piller leurs effets, et s'opposer à leur départ par le meurtre. Les représentations réitérées de la Légation Impériale à Athènes n'ont jamais pu obtenir du Gouvernement Hellénique que des garanties de sécurité fussent accordées à ces malheureux. Tout récemment encore des pères de familles arrivés de Crète ont en vain cherché à communiquer avec leurs femmes et leurs enfants se trouvant dans différentes localités ; des sicaires stipendiés par les Comités s'y sont opposés, en leur faisant subir les plus cruels traitements. Nous nous en référons pour confirmer la vérité de cette assertion à la correspondance échangée à ce sujet avec le Gouvernement Hellénique et aux rapports adressés à leurs Gouvernements par les Représentants des Puissances étrangères à Athènes. Tout le monde sait en Grèce que si quelques Crétois ont pu partir de Pirée et de Syra, leur départ n'a pu s'effectuer que nuitamment et d'une manière furtive.

Quant à la demande relative à la punition de ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'agression contre les militaires et les sujets Ottomans, et à l'indemnité due aux victimes de ces attentats, il convient au Gouvernement Hellénique d'ignorer les circonstances qui l'ont motivée. Pourtant il est de notoriété publique en Grèce que des militaires et des sujets Ottomans ont été attaqués, pillés, blessés, assassinés en mainte occasion, souvent même sous les yeux des autorités chargées de maintenir l'ordre et de faire respecter les lois. Les représentations faites en plus d'une circonstance par la Légation Impériale à Athènes en font foi. Ces méfaits ne furent jamais sérieusement réprimés, et aucune indemnité n'a été accordée aux victimes, parceque les assassiner c'était faire acte de patriotisme. Le seul attentat que le Gouvernement Hellénique a jugé à propos de citer dans sa note du 15 Décembre, pour témoigner de la sollicitude de ces autorités à le réprimer, est lui-même demeuré impuni de l'aveu même de ce Gouvernement.

Le Cabinet d'Athènes, conséquent avec les principes dont il s'est inspiré jusqu'à présent, déclare n'avoir pas même saisi le sens de la dernière demande formulée dans l'ultimatum du 11 Décembre, et qui consistait à l'engager à suivre dorénavant une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités existants et au droit des gens. On a vu par ce qui précède de quelle manière il a toujours rempli ses obligations à cet égard. Au surplus, intervertissant les rôles de la façon la plus étrange, il prétend avoir à se plaindre de l'inexécution par la Sublime Porte de la Convention pour la répression du brigandage par suite de l'entretien de troupes irrégulières à proximité de la frontière. Le Gouvernement Impériale a déjà déclaré à plusieurs reprises que les agressions dont sa frontière était le théâtre du côté de la Grèce lui imposaient la nécessité d'employer tous ses moyens de défense pour les repousser ; mais qu'elle était prête à remplacer ces détachements, d'ailleurs peu nombreux, par des soldats réguliers aussitôt qu'un ordre de choses offrant des garanties de paix s'établirait en Grèce. Il convient de faire observer que si le Gouvernement Hellénique a insisté pour qu'il n'y eût plus sur la frontière que des troupes régulières, c'est qu'il les juge moins aptes que les autres à réprimer les coupables entreprises des envahisseurs Hellènes. Quoiqu'il en soit, ce n'est pas de la faute de la Sublime Porte si le Gouvernement Hellénique n'a pas voulu jusqu'à présent la mettre en mesure de traduire en fait ses loyales intentions. Quant aux causes du brigandage qui infeste les provinces limitrophes, il est à peine nécessaire de faire observer que ce qui se passait en Grèce, au sein même de l'Attique, est très propre à expliquer les proportions si inquiétantes que ce fléau a pris depuis quelques années.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique a jugé à propos de blâmer la décision prise par la

Sublime Porte de renvoyer de son territoire les sujets Helléniques, et de fermer ses ports aux navires sous pavillon Hellénique. La Sublime Porte regrette elle-même de se voir dans la pénible nécessité d'adopter cette mesure, mais elle ne pourrait que prendre en considération les circonstances impérieuses et les exigences de l'ordre public qui le lui commandaient. On sait de quelle manière les sujets Hellènes qui n'ont pour la plupart d'autre titre à la protection Hellénique que des passeports délivrés à des conditions inavouables par des agents peu scrupuleux, ont répondu à la large et généreuse hospitalité dont ils jouissent dans l'Empire Ottoman, et qui leur a permis de prospérer et de s'enrichir sous la protection des lois. C'est par des procédés malveillants, des sourdes intrigues, et des menées hostiles qu'ils ont toujours payé la sollicitude dont ils sont l'objet; trop souvent ces Hellènes ont profité de la sécurité dont on jouait, et de plus de la position exceptionnelle assurée aux étrangers par les Capitulations, pour conspirer contre le Gouvernement Impérial, et il est notoire que leurs souscriptions ouvertes ont puissamment contribué à ravitailler l'insurrection. Leur séjour ultérieur sur le territoire Ottoman, dans les circonstances actuelles, ne manquerait pas d'occasionner de regrettables conflits et de graves désordres, et de constituer un danger permanent contre la tranquillité publique.

Il n'est pas inutile de dire ici que pendant que deux cent mille Hellènes veulent rester en Turquie et vivre sous la prétendue tyrannie du Gouvernement Ottoman plutôt que de se rendre en Grèce, où un million d'habitants est clairsemé sur un sol capable d'en contenir quatre, on pourrait à peine citer deux cent sujets Ottomans qui auraient quitté la Turquie pour aller habiter la Grèce, où ils vivent paisiblement sous les lois du pays, sans invoquer le bénéfice d'aucune espèce de Capitulations. On s'explique, dès lors, que le Gouvernement Hellénique parle de sa décision de ne pas expulser le petit nombre de sujets Ottomans inoffensifs qui se trouvent sur son territoire; mais il est difficile de concevoir qu'il ait cru devoir appeler sur ce grand acte l'admiration de l'Europe. D'ailleurs, nous le demandons, ce langage convenait-il à ceux qui retiennent les réfugiés Crétois malgré eux?

Quant à la critique sévère que la note Hellénique contient sur notre administration intérieure, nous ne jugeons pas nécessaire de chercher à nous justifier à ce sujet. Nous n'avons jamais prétendu être parvenu à la perfection; mais nous ne croyons pas que la Grèce possède l'administration modèle qui l'eût mise en position de nous donner des leçons utiles.

La Sublime Porte a répondu à la note Hellénique, parcequ'elle le considère comme destinée à l'Europe, où la Grèce a été si longtemps en possession du regrettable privilège de propager des erreurs fâcheuses pour la renommée du Gouvernement Impérial. Si ce travail n'avait été écrit que pour des lecteurs plus rapprochés des faits, la Sublime Porte ait laissé à la conscience publique le soin de se prononcer entre la note Hellénique et son silence.

No. 117.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1869.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that I have lost no time in instructing Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople and Her Majesty's Minister at Athens earnestly to support the French Representatives at their respective residences in the execution of the instructions sent to them yesterday afternoon by M. de Lavalette, in the name of the Conference.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 118.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1869.

HER Majesty's Ambassador at Paris has informed me that at the meeting of the Conference on the 9th instant, the Greek Representative declined to attend except on an equal footing with the Turkish Plenipotentiary; that thereupon the Marquis de Lavalette, in the name of the Conference, desired your French colleague to invite

the Greek Government to reconsider its resolution, and to point out the serious responsibility which Greece would incur by persisting in such refusal.

I have to instruct you to support the French Minister in carrying out this instruction; and to point out, if necessary, to M. Delyanni that such a course on the part of Greece must, in every respect, be disadvantageous to her.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 119.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1869.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve Mr. Consul Lloyd's proceedings in regard to the "Enosis," as reported in the despatch of which an extract is inclosed in your despatch of the 24th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 120.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1869.

I APPROVE the notes which you addressed to M. Delyanni on the 24th and 25th ultimo, of which copies are inclosed in your despatches of the same dates, respecting the reported intention of the Hellenic Government to withdraw a large amount of specie from the National Bank, contrary to the statutes of that institution.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 121.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 12, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government would much regret that the Greek Representative should not be present during the deliberations of the Conference, when he would have the opportunity to give explanations in regard to any points as to which the conduct of his Government was impugned, and so enable the Conference to determine on the questions before it, with full knowledge of what either Turkey or Greece might allege in support of their respective cases. But if the Greek Plenipotentiary will not attend as proposed, it seems that the only course open to the Conference is to proceed with such information as may be laid before it, or that it can obtain, to examine into the complaints made by the Porte. But Her Majesty's Government think that when that examination is completed, and the Conference has, so far as it may be enabled by the means at its command, formed an opinion on the merits of the case, it would be right that the nature of that opinion and the grounds upon which it is formed, should be stated on behalf of the Conference to the Greek Representative, or directly to the Greek Government if he refuses to take charge of the communication. In either case, that communication should be accompanied by an assurance that the Conference will be ready to receive and consider any observations upon it that the Greek Government may desire to offer in any form that it should think proper to adopt.

Her Majesty's Government would deplore that the Conference should be broken up on this point of form, and they think that, as regards the other Powers concerned, they might, without any material sacrifice of dignity, so far depart from their original understanding among themselves as to consent to waive it.

No. 122.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 12, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government approve the communications which your Excellency made to the Russian Ambassador and to the Grand Vizier respecting the Conference at Paris, as reported in your despatch of the 28th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 123.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1869.

BARON BRUNNOW has read to me a telegram he received this morning from Prince Gortchakoff, saying, that as the maintenance of peace was the object earnestly desired by all the Powers, his Excellency saw no reason why the "Greek incident" should prevent the Conference from proceeding with its labours. Greece will not accept a position of inequality, and Turkey has declared that she will accept no modification of her ultimatum, and that, if any such should be proposed, her Representative would be instructed to withdraw, and take no further part in the deliberations of the Conference. Under these circumstances, Prince Gortchakoff asks, why should not the six Powers examine into the facts of the dispute, receiving from the Representatives of Turkey and Greece all the information that they thought proper to give, and then make a final award.

I remarked to Baron Brunnow that, although it might be quite true that Turkey intended to adhere to her ultimatum, yet I did not understand that she insisted upon the actual words of the ultimatum being adopted, or that she would not be satisfied with the guarantees she demanded from Greece even if given in a somewhat different form, and that I believed, with respect to the withdrawal of her Representative from the Conference, it was only meditated in the event of the Conference departing from the basis on which it was convoked and entering upon questions of internal administration.

I added that, as Turkey had with reluctance agreed to the Conference, but had consented to attend upon the conditions proposed, and had, in fact, conformed to the wishes expressed by the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris, I thought it would be improper and unjust now to ask her to withdraw from the Conference, and simply to furnish information, because the Greek Government, though well acquainted with the position offered to its Representative, had at the last moment thought fit to forbid his attendance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 124.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 4, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Chiefs, Leonidas Petropoulakis, Mitza, Tzakona, Tziko, Khionia, and the rest of the Hellenic volunteers, numbering some 130 in all, have just tendered their submission to Sawas Pasha, on condition that a foreign ship should be sent to take them back to Greece.

The above intelligence having been transmitted by a special messenger from Sawas Pasha to the Governor-General, his Excellency at once acceded to the petition, and has signified his intention of dispatching the "Phocéen" (one of the French steamers lately chartered by the Porte for the conveyance of both Cretan refugees and Hellenic volunteers) to the Port of Sphakia, as soon as that ship shall have arrived from Prevesa.

The volunteers in question were all at Askyfo when they made their proposal to surrender.

On the morning of the 2nd instant, Shevket Pasha, having learnt that some twenty

armed insurgents were at the village of Asygonia, near Argyropolis, in Retimo district, he ordered his troops to surround the place, calling upon the insurgents to surrender. These, having instead attempted to make their escape, were fired upon by the troops. Three of the number, viz., Mpoumpoulaki, Tzeralidi, and Skouloudi, late members of the "General Cretan Assembly," were killed; the rest escaped. A bag, containing the correspondence of this body, the official seal, &c., has fallen into the hands of the Turkish authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 125.

Lord Bloomfield to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Vienna, January 9, 1869.

AT an interview I have just had with Count Beust I endeavoured to learn the nature of the instructions he had sent to Prince Metternich for his guidance at the Conference, which was to be opened to-day at Paris. His Excellency said that the Austrian Ambassador was instructed to give his general support to the object for which the Conference had been summoned, and was to use all his influence to effect a reconciliation of the differences which had arisen between Turkey and Greece, and he gave me further to understand that he hoped the Ambassadors of Austria and England would be found acting cordially together during the approaching discussion. I replied that Her Majesty's Government would learn this intelligence with satisfaction: they earnestly hoped that concord would prevail amongst the Powers, and that the discussions would soon be brought to a close by the early removal of the present cause of disturbance in the relations of Turkey and Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BLOOMFIELD.

No. 126.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 14, 1869.

M. RIZA RANGABE, the Greek Minister at Paris, called upon me this morning and said that he came to beg me to go on with the Conference, although he himself might not be authorized to take part in it. He had not, he said, yet received any instructions from his Government in answer to the request made to it by the Conference to reconsider its decision, and, therefore, could only express his personal opinion. It seemed, however, to him that the presence of a Greek Representative was not indispensably necessary. The Conference was not a Tribunal, nor a Commission of Inquiry. Its object was simply conciliation. He should suggest that allusion to the past should, as much as possible, be avoided, and that the Conference should rather lay down general principles of international law to which both parties should be recommended to conform their conduct.

Greece could not hesitate to obey the voice of Europe expressed on such a subject and in such a form. He must again say that he was speaking without instructions—indeed he would confess that the last instructions he had received were not very conciliatory. They enjoined him to demand compensation from the Porte for the losses sustained by Greek subjects in consequence of their threatened expulsion from Turkey and of the exclusion of their ships from Ottoman ports. He was, however, himself of opinion that the premature breaking-up of the Conference would be a great misfortune, and he therefore hoped that I should not object to proceed in the absence of a Greek Representative.

I asked him if I was to understand that, personally, he was distinctly of opinion that, in the interest of Greece, as well as in that of the general peace and tranquillity, it was advisable that the Conference should go on and come to a decision, even though Greece should definitively refuse to be represented.

He said that certainly such was his personal opinion.

I confined myself to observing that I would still hope that before 4 o'clock, the hour

at which the Conference was to meet, he would receive instructions which would enable him to join us.

I am obliged to conclude this despatch before I go to the Conference, as it is doubtful whether I shall get back before the departure of the messenger this evening.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.



No. 127.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16, 1869.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, December 30, 1868.

I COMMUNICATED to the Grand Vizier your Lordship's instruction on the subject of the Conference.

As the Conference is to be confined to the points contained in the ultimatum of the Porte, Aali Pasha is of opinion that the Porte should assent to it; but before pronouncing positively his Highness says that he must consult his colleagues.

His Highness, however, added that in the event of any discussion arising unconnected with the above basis, the Ottoman Plenipotentiary would at once withdraw from the Conference.

No. 128.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, January 1, 1869.

AT a meeting held last night at the house of the Grand Vizier, the Turkish Government decided to consent to the Conference upon the express condition that its discussion shall be limited to the five demands contained in the ultimatum, and that no questions relative to territorial or administrative changes shall be broached.

No. 129.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 2, 1869.

I CALLED this morning upon the Grand Vizier, for the purpose of seeing whether it would be possible to obtain the revocation or the suspension of the order for the expulsion of the Hellenic subjects.

From the previous communications I had received from him I was aware that I had no great prospect of success; but upon the capitulation of the Greek volunteers in Crete being spoken of as equivalent to the end of the insurrection, I urged that this was a sufficient reason for no longer carrying into execution a measure so contrary to modern practice even in time of war, and so much calculated to alienate those who were the most willing to recognize the right of the Porte to insist upon the Greek Government abstaining from aggressive or hostile acts.

The success which had been obtained in Crete being due to the Porte's own unaided energy, they had an admirable opportunity of at once and voluntarily giving public evidence of the moderation which guided them, and of showing that they had only been driven to adopt extreme measures when they deemed them indispensably called for; and I pointed out that in supporting in the coming Congress the just demands of the Porte, the hands of Her Majesty's Government would be greatly strengthened by the abandonment of a measure which they regarded as unnecessary and impolitic.

I did not succeed in obtaining from Aali Pasha anything that led me to expect that he would give way upon the point in question.

The measure so generally disapproved of in Europe was, he said, exactly the one that had given the greatest satisfaction in Turkey, where the public had long seen, with ill-suppressed indignation, the unconcealed support given to the insurrection by those whose expulsion they now viewed with universal approval.

The different manner in which it was appreciated here and in Europe arose probably,

he thought, from the European public not being fully aware of the position of Turkey in regard to foreigners.

In every other country foreigners live subject to its jurisdiction, whereas in Turkey the Capitulations give them exceptional privileges over the Sultan's subjects; and with regard to the Greeks especially this had led to much abuse.

The nominal Greek subjects in different parts of the Empire exceed 200,000; but Aali Pasha assured me that not one-third of that number are *bond fide* of Hellenic nationality, the others being in reality Ottoman subjects, to whom Greek passports had been given in order to give them the benefit of the Capitulations: and the Porte is not inclined to allow these people to remain here after the rupture of relations between the Governments, and to continue to treat them with the exceptional favour to which they were never really entitled.

I have no means of verifying the accuracy of the comparative numbers given by the Grand Vizier, but there cannot, I imagine, be any doubt that by far the larger proportion of the nominal Hellenic subjects belong to the class he had named; for the traffic in Greek passports has long been a matter of notoriety.

Seeing little prospect of obtaining the complete suspension of the measure of expulsion, I availed myself of Aali Pasha's argument respecting the fictitious Greek subjects to suggest a modification of it, which would do away with a great part of its harshness.

I proposed to him freely to permit all the *bond fide* Greeks to remain under the temporary protection of the Turkish Government, with the understanding that they returned as a matter of course to that of their own Legation on the re-establishment of relations between the two countries.

With regard to Ottoman subjects with fictitious Greek nationalities, he might pursue the system which I understood already to have been adopted, of allowing such of them as chose to remain to do so, upon the condition of permanently reassuming their original and proper Turkish nationality.

I should have preferred the complete suspension of the measure, but this modification would at least take much of the sting out of it; and as Aali Pasha did not at once refuse to entertain it, but promised to take the suggestion into his serious consideration, I am not without some hope that it may be adopted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 130.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 4, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Porte has in great part adopted the suggestions I had made, and has introduced into the order for the expulsion of the Greeks a modification which will do away with much of the hardship it was calculated to inflict.

All *bond fide* Greek subjects residing in Turkey, and conducting themselves peaceably, who wish to remain, are to be free to do so, under the protection of the laws of the country during the interruption of relations, and will afterwards return to the protection of their Legation.

The Ottoman subjects, on the other hand, who have so extensively obtained a fictitious Hellenic protection, if they desire to remain, must return to their original and proper nationality.

If they decline to do so, they will be required to leave the country, and will not be again received until they present themselves as Ottoman subjects.

The exclusion of the Greek vessels from the Turkish ports is maintained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 131.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 8, 1869.

I INFORMED your Lordship that M. Delyanni, on leaving Constantinople, announced that he put the Greek subjects under the protection of the Minister of the United States of America.

Mr. Morris accepted the trust, subject to the approval of his Government, and without making any communication to the Porte upon the subject, who, however, telegraphed to their Minister at Washington to endeavour to prevent the American Government from sanctioning the arrangement.

A telegram reached the Porte yesterday from Blaque Bey, informing them, in reply, that the American Government had promised to instruct their Minister here not to interfere in the matter, either officially or unofficially.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 132.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 5, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a telegram from Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, stating that he had been requested by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to protect the Greek subjects there till their departure.

I have informed Mr. Cumberbatch that he is not authorized to comply with M. Delyanni's request, which must have been made after I had declined to take them under the protection of Her Majesty's Embassy.

I have informed Mr. Erskine of the instruction I have given to Mr. Cumberbatch by the despatch of which a copy is herewith transmitted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 132.

Consul Cumberbatch to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Smyrna, January 2, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to annex herewith copy of a telegram which I had the honour to address your Excellency on the 29th ultimo.

"Being requested by the Hellenic Minister for Foreign Affairs to protect Hellenic subjects until their departure from Smyrna, I have the honour to request your Excellency's instructions whether I am to accept or refuse this service."

And to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's reply on the 30th of December, 1868.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. W. CUMBERBATCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 132.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Constantinople, January 5, 1869.

I INCLOSE the copy of a telegram which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, stating that he had been requested by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to protect the Greek subjects there till their departure.

Having already declined to receive the Greeks under the protection of Her Majesty's Embassy, I have informed Mr. Cumberbatch that he is not authorized to comply with M. Delyanni's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 133.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 5, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of the telegraphic order of the Porte notifying to the provincial authorities the new decision with respect to the Greeks residing in Turkey.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Ottoman Government, in stating their intention of expelling the turbulent Greeks, do not authorize the local authorities to do so without reference to the Porte.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 133.

Orders addressed to Turkish Provincial Authorities respecting the Expulsion of Greek Subjects, dated January 5, 1869.

[See No. 99.]

No. 134.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract from a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, respecting the arrival and landing of the body of volunteers under the elder Petropoulaki, which recently capitulated to the Turkish troops at Askyfo in Crete.

I have further the honour to transmit a copy of a letter and of its inclosures which I have received this morning from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra.

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, January 2, 1869, 10 P.M.

YESTERDAY, after a great deal of trouble, the Nomarch succeeded in getting rid of the ex-volunteers by "Amphitrite" gone to Gythium, though Petropoulaki is still here. According to conditions, the arms of these people were to be, or might have been delivered to them on their landing on Greek territory, but Admiral Hobart had the consideration not to give the arms into their hands, but into the hands of the local authorities; had he given the arms to the men, there is no saying what disorders might not have occurred.

Up to to-day, only Admiral Hobart and one Turkish officer had been examined by the "Juge d'Instruction" on board the "Forbin;" both of these signed the questions put and the answers they gave, and each took notes of them. To-day the Captain of the "Izzedin" was examined, who can neither read nor write, and speaks only Turkish. His examination being finished before putting his finger or mark or seal to his answers, he requested copy of what he was required to sign; this was refused as being illegal, so Admiral Hobart objected to his signing at all, and the case is to be referred to Athens; had the man been able to write, he would himself have done as Admiral Hobart and the other, namely, take notes at the time; and as this was allowed to the others, Admiral Hobart thinks it hard that simply because the man cannot write, he should not have the same advantage as the others.

Admiral Hobart told me yesterday that some 250 more ex-volunteers would be coming here shortly from Crete; some 100 have remained here from the last batch (Petropoulaki's), but their arms have not been given to them. According to the reports of the Turkish officers, large sums in gold English sovereigns and French napoleons were

divided among the Chiefs of those who last came with Petropoulaki, some of which has been spent here in the town.

Inclosure 2 in No. 134.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Syra, January 5, 1869, 5 P.M.

AT 5 P.M. yesterday the French Consul gave notice to the Nomarch that, according to the complaint Captain Meyer of the "Forbin" had received from Admiral Hobart, several bullets had been fired in the direction of the Turkish vessel "Ismalier" from a house which was subsequently indicated to the police-master; and the Nomarch promised to take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence of the same.

At 7 P.M. I received a note from the Nomarch of 23rd December o.s., translation annexed, complaining of the Turkish boats circulating in the harbour, and at 8:30 P.M., a meeting was held in consequence at the French Consulate, where a note was drawn up and signed—copy inclosed, the Russian Consul refusing to sign it, as he considered it useless unless Admiral Hobart's attention was drawn as well to other subjects which we considered quite foreign to the purpose, and only calculated to do rather harm than good. The Belgian Consul also declined to sign it; and I was requested to take it on board the Turkish flag-ship, and give other verbal explanations.

At 10:30 A.M. this day I took the note on board, delivered the note and gave the explanations, and from what was elicited at the meeting yesterday evening, and from what Admiral Hobart told me, it would seem that the occasion complained of was the night of Sunday the 3rd, when the "Crete" left at 11 P.M. for Piræus, and whose departure the "Izzedin" had been ordered to watch. Both I and the Austrian Consul had repeatedly, since the formal accusation made by Admiral Hobart against the "Enosis" to the King's Attorney, urged the Nomarch to give an explicit declaration that "Enosis" is arrested and would not be allowed to leave Syra till the end of the legal proceedings, and this in order to enable Admiral Hobart to do away with, or relax this boat watch in the harbour, and thus do away with a cause of collision; but the Nomarch had always declined, as he said it was illegal, unnecessary, &c., and so late as yesterday afternoon he promised the Austrian Consul to do as requested; but in the above-mentioned note he is far from being as explicit on the subject as we wished; so at 3 P.M. to-day a meeting was held in my house, where a reply to the Nomarch, copy inclosed, was drawn up and signed, and taken by us to the Nomarch, calling upon him for an explicit declaration on the subject, which was more than ever to be desired now as the fêtes were approaching, when the danger would be greater from the abominable custom of the Greeks of discharging fire-arms. The Nomarch said he would take further information, reflect upon the matter, and reply later.

I should mention that early this morning, Admiral Hobart changed the position of some of his vessels, moving them further out from the shore, and I have no doubt if he can but obtain the declaration he wants, he will do everything he can to avoid a provocation from the Greeks.

Herewith is a copy of petition of the steam agents relative to the project of fortifying Syra.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 134.

M. Dracopulo to the Consuls of the Friendly Powers.

(Translation.)

Syra, December 23, 1868, o.s.

AFTER my circular protest of $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁴/₆th instant addressed to you, I hoped, Messrs. Consuls, at least, that the Turkish boats which are cruising in the harbour, which I considered, and still consider, most dangerous for the consequences, would, by your mediation, cease (to circulate), but unfortunately my hopes have been vain, as the evil continues; and that, too, after the judicial authority has received the accusation against the "Enosis," and ordered that the vessel do not go away.

As by this act of provocation I see a danger which I cannot prevent, as I explained by my said circular to you, and wishing to exhaust all the means in my power, I come

again to say to you, Mr. Consuls, that the responsibility of what may happen does not certainly devolve upon the Greek authorities, which have done everything in their power to prevent it.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) G. R. DRACOPOULO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 134.

The Consuls at Syra to M. Dracopoulos.

Syra, le 4 Janvier, 1869.

NOUS, Soussignés, avons l'honneur de communiquer à votre Excellence pour les fins que de droit une note en date du ^{28 Décembre, 1868} 4 Janvier, 1869, que M. le Nomarque des Cyclades a bien voulu adresser à MM. les Consuls des Puissances amies de la Grèce.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) HAHN.
CH. MEYSONNIER.
ST. VINCENT LLOYD.
CH. J. A. KLOEBE.
G. VACONDIO.
EMMANUEL SAPIENZACHI.
A. SALACHA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 134.

The Consuls at Syra to M. Dracopoulos.

M. le Nomarque,

Syra, le 5 Janvier, 1869.

LES Soussignés, vu l'urgence, se sont empressés de faire parvenir à son Excellence Hobart Pacha la circulaire que vous avez bien voulu leur adresser en date d'hier. Ils vous seraient très reconnaissants, M. le Nomarque, d'être assez bon pour répondre aux trois demandes suivantes, qui complèteraient votre communication, et leur permettraient de répondre aux questions qui leur ont été faites :—

1. Dans ce moment "l'Enosis" se trouve-t-il sous le séquestre judiciaire à la suite du procès intenté contre lui par son Excellence M. l'Amiral Hobart ?

2. Ce séquestre sera-t-il maintenu jusqu'à la fin du procès ?

3. Enfin "l'Enosis" est-il gardé par un détachement de la force publique ? et son ancien équipage est-il licencié ?

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé) HAHN.
CH. MEYSONNIER.
ST. VINCENT LLOYD.
CH. J. A. KLOEBE.
A. SALACHA.
G. VACONDIO.
EMMANUEL SAPIENZACHI.

Inclosure 6 in No. 134.

Declaration of Merchants at Syra against proposed Fortifications.

LES Soussignés, Représentants des intérêts considérables du commerce et de la navigation de l'étranger sur cette place, ayant appris qu'il existe un projet d'élever des fortifications pour la protection du port, considèrent comme leur devoir d'exprimer leur opinion sur l'opportunité de cette mesure.

A première vue on reconnaît que par suite de la position de la ville et de ses alentours il faudrait, pour les protéger efficacement contre une attaque du dehors, établir un système de fortifications extrêmement étendu dont l'exécution exigerait des sommes immenses et une longue suite d'années.

Il est donc hors de toute possibilité de mettre la place dans un état de défense

suffisant, et tel que l'exigent les conjonctures qui semblent avoir donné naissance à l'idée précitée.

Par contre, des fortifications provisoires insuffisantes ne serviraient, dans le cas d'une guerre, qu'à exposer encore plus Syra, car la ville perdrait par là les avantages dont jouit, d'après le droit de guerre actuel, toute ville maritime ouverte, et enlèverait aux représentants des intérêts étrangers le droit de protester contre les dégâts qu'y causeraient un bombardement ou toute autre entreprise militaire, parce qu'on leur répondrait qu'ils n'ont qu'à s'en prendre à eux-mêmes, ayant placé leurs intérêts dans une place préparée spécialement pour une défense militaire, et devant par conséquent prévoir une attaque, et qu'ils auraient dû s'attendre à y rencontrer ce danger.

Il ne peut donc subsister aucun doute que Syra en sa qualité de ville ouverte est infiniment moins exposée aux dangers de guerre que si elle était garnie de fortifications insuffisantes, qui seraient les seules exécutables dans le moment.

On peut admettre avec certitude que tous les Etats qui ont des relations commerciales avec cette place y enverront dans le cas d'une guerre des bâtiments pour y protéger leurs intérêts, lesquels bâtiments garantiront bien mieux la place contre les dangers de la guerre si elle reste ouverte que les fortifications sans importance qu'on pourrait lui donner.

Les Soussignés saisissent cette occasion pour ajouter à leur opinion sur l'opportunité de fortifications autour de Syra l'idée que cette ville étant une des échelles principales de toutes les lignes de navigation à vapeur dans le Levant, il serait dans l'intérêt du commerce Européen que les Puissances qui y sont spécialement intéressées, comme l'Autriche, la Grande Bretagne, et la France, cherchassent à obtenir la complète neutralité de Syra dans le cas d'une guerre Turco-Hellénique, et qu'il ne serait pas difficile d'établir sous quelles conditions cette neutralité serait reconnue de la part des Puissances belligérantes.

Cette déclaration sera remise à MM. le Nomarque des Cyclades, le Démarque d'Hermopolis, le Président de la Chambre de Commerce, et à MM. les Consuls résidant ici, avec prière de bien vouloir s'intéresser pour l'exécution tant que ces conditions auraient trouvé leur approbation.

Syra, le 19 Décembre, 1868.

(Signé)

G. MARIKICH, *Agent du Lloyd Autrichien, et des Chambres d'Assurance de Trieste, Genova, Napoli et Marseille.*

EMMANUEL SAPIENZACHI, *Agent for the British Steamers of Messrs. Seymour, Capper, and Co., of London; and Agent for the British Steamers of Mr. W. H. Dixon, of Liverpool.*

Z. P. NEGROPONTE, *Agent des Bateaux Anglais de MM. Dadels et Cie., Amsterdam.*

CH. KLOEBE AND Co., *Agents for Lloyds of London; and for British Steamers of Messrs. Smith, Sundius, and Co., of London; and for the British Steamers of Messrs. Kandipide and Thendum, of Glasgow; and Agent for the Belgian Steamers of Messrs. David, Verbeit, and Co., at Antwerp; Agente della Società d'Assicurazioni Generali di Trieste.*

A. FALON, *Agent des Services Maritimes des Messageries Impériales de France.*

No. 135.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 7, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of a Royal Ordinance promulgated yesterday authorizing the issue of Treasury notes to the amount of 15,000,000 drachmas (535,714*l.*), which are made a legal tender throughout the kingdom in all monetary transactions, whether past or future.

This measure has created universal consternation amongst all persons in this country who have anything to lose, and the general manager of the Ionian Bank informs me that he cannot doubt that it will lead to an immediate run upon the Ionian Bank, the exhaustion of its stock of specie, and the consequent ruin of that establishment.

I need scarcely add that the effects of this measure will be no less disastrous in this part of the kingdom than in the Ionian Islands, and the only hope of its being even temporarily defeated is that the National Bank may be terrified into the acceptance of

some arrangement by which the Royal Ordinance in question may be withdrawn, and the bank may consent to a large additional issue of notes, on condition that the whole of its paper circulation shall be made a legal tender.

The Government, I understand, have proposed to the bank that it shall at once advance the sum of 4,000,000 drachmas in specie (142,857*l.*) and 6,000,000 in paper (214,285*l.*), in return for which assistance the bank would be allowed to issue 10,000,000 drachmas (357,142*l.*) worth of additional notes; whilst the whole paper circulation of the bank, which would thus be raised to about 33,000,000*l.* drachmas (1,178,571*l.*), would be made a legal tender.

Up to this moment the bank has declined to listen to this proposal, as it foresees, truly enough, that this would be merely a first step towards a far larger issue of paper, and that eventually the bank and the country will equally be involved in the financial ruin with which they are menaced by the scheme, of which a translation is herewith inclosed.

Inclosure in No. 135.

Decree for the Issuing of Treasury Notes.

(Translation.)

GEORGE I, King of the Hellenes.

In accordance with Article 2 of the Law, No. 268, of the $\frac{19}{2}$ December, 1868, and on the advice of our Ministerial Council we have determined, and hereby decree:—

Article 1. The Government shall issue throughout the kingdom public Treasury notes having forced circulation to the amount of 15,000,000 drachmas. The notes shall be issued as may be required by the Public Treasury in notes of 1,000, 100, 20, and 10 drachmas each.

Art. 2. The notes are issued with the signature of the Minister of Finance, countersigned by the Presidents of the Areopago, of the Court of Accounts, of the Court of Appeal, and by the Director of the Audit Office.

The signature of the Minister may be affixed by a seal.

At the end of each month the above-mentioned Commission shall publish in three different unofficial newspapers at least, a short statement of the notes in circulation.

Art. 3. Besides the other distinguishing signs each note shall bear the white seal affixed to the stamp paper in the National Stamp Office.

The colour of the paper for the aforesaid notes shall for the present be as follows:—

For the 1,000 drachmas, purple; for the 100 drachmas, blue; for the 20 drachmas, pale yellow; for the 10 drachmas, green.

The paper required shall provisionally be taken from that appropriated to the service of postage stamps, in accordance with the enactments of the Royal Decree of August 10, 1861.

Art. 4. From the publication of the present Decree the notes issued in accordance with its provisions shall be given and received compulsorily as cash to their full nominal value by all the public Treasuries without exception, whether in payment or in receipt, likewise by private persons, banks, societies, and bodies of every description, and without reference to any agreement whatever, past, present, or future.

Art. 5. As security to the holders of the notes that shall be issued in conformity with the present Decree, all the fisheries and salt-pans of the kingdom are considered *de jure* mortgaged.

Art. 6. A special Royal Decree shall regulate the execution of the present.

Our Minister of Finance is charged with the publication and execution of the present Decree.

Athens, Decem^r 23, 1868
January 4, 1869.

(Signed)

D. BOULGARIS.
P. DELYANNI.
M. KANARIS.
S. MILIOS.
A. MAVROMICHADI.
G. ANTONOPOULOS.

(Signed)

GEORGE.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 7, 1869.

ON the receipt of Mr. Elliot's telegram to your Lordship of the 4th instant, stating the conditions on which the Porte is prepared to modify its original decision with reference to the expulsion of all Hellenic subjects from Turkey, I thought it advisable to acquaint M. Delyanni with the substance of that communication, in the hope that it might have a conciliatory effect upon the Greek Government, and induce them to acquiesce more readily in the pacific course advised by Her Majesty's Government pending the result of the approaching Conference at Paris, but I regret to say that M. Delyanni is far from considering that the Porte has made any concession in this matter which would be acceptable to Greece.

No. 137.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 15, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, the Protocol of the first sitting of the Conference on the differences between Turkey and Greece, which was held at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the 9th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 137.

Protocol (No. 1) of Conference held at Paris, January 9, 1869.

Présents :

- M. le Prince de Metternich, Ambassadeur d'Autriche-Hongrie ;
- M. le Marquis de Lavalette, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de France, Membre du Conseil Privé, Sénateur de l'Empire ;
- Lord Lyons, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire du Royaume-Uni de Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande ;
- M. le Chevalier Nigra, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire d'Italie ;
- M. le Comte de Solms, Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord ;
- M. l'Aide-de-Camp Général Comte de Stackelberg, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire de Russie ;
- Mehemet Djemil Pacha, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de Turquie ;
- M. Desprez, Directeur des Affaires Politiques au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Secrétaire de la Conférence.

LES Puissances Signataires du Traité du 30 Mars, 1856, après s'être entendues pour rechercher en commun, et conformément au Protocole du 14 Avril suivant, les moyens d'aplanir le différend survenu entre la Turquie et la Grèce, ont autorisé leur Représentants à Paris à se réunir en Conférence.

Les Plénipotentiaires se sont assemblés aujourd'hui à l'Hôtel du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, et ont confié la Présidence de leur travaux à M. le Marquis de Lavalette, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, Membre de son Conseil Privé, Sénateur de l'Empire. Sur sa proposition, la Conférence a désigné pour Secrétaire M. Desprez, Conseiller d'Etat, Directeur au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères.

Les pleins pouvoirs ont été vérifiés et trouvés en bonne et due forme.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France a ouvert la délibération en constatant l'esprit de conciliation dont tous les Cabinets se sont montrés animés dans les pourparlers qui ont préparé la réunion de la Conférence. Il a rappelé que, d'après l'entente établie, le but unique et précis tracé aux Plénipotentiaires était d'examiner dans quelle mesure il y avait lieu de faire droit aux réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum adressé par la Turquie au Gouvernement Hellénique.

L'on avait jugé équitable que la Grèce fût entendue, et, par le même accord qui avait circonscrit la mission de la Conférence, il avait été convenu que le Représentant du Gouvernement Hellénique y serait appelé avec voix consultative.

La discussion s'est engagée sur une difficulté née à ce sujet au moment même où la séance allait s'ouvrir. M. le Ministre de Grèce, averti de l'heure de la réunion au sein de laquelle il devait siéger aussitôt qu'elle serait constituée, venait d'annoncer à M. le Marquis de Lavalette que, d'après des instructions reçues dans la matinée, il n'était pas autorisé à assister aux délibérations, s'il n'y était admis sur un pied d'égalité complète avec M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie.

M. Rangabé ayant été introduit, sur la demande de M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie, pour présenter lui-même ses explications, a donné lecture d'une note conçue en ce sens et déclarant qu'il avait ordre de se retirer s'il n'était pas fait droit à sa réclamation.

Les Plénipotentiaires n'ont pas cru devoir accepter la participation de M. le Ministre de Grèce dans les conditions qu'il avait pour instructions d'y mettre, et ils ont été unanimes pour exprimer la surprise et les regrets que la communication qu'ils venaient d'entendre était de nature à leur causer.

En effet, le Gouvernement Hellénique aurait eu tout le temps nécessaire pour formuler ses objections avant le moment présent s'il avait jugé à propos d'en produire.

La Conférence a été instituée entre les Puissances signataires du Traité de Paris et suivant l'esprit du Protocole du 14 Avril, 1866. La Grèce n'a pas été partie contractante dans les grandes transactions de cette époque. C'est par cette unique raison, a dit M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, et non dans la pensée de méconnaître sa situation, sa dignité, ou ses droits, qu'elle n'a pas été invitée au même titre que la Turquie.

Reconnaissant la grave responsabilité que le Gouvernement Hellénique assumerait s'il persistait dans la résolution inattendue de s'abstenir, la Conférence a décidé que le Président, au nom de tous et avec l'appui des autres Cours, ferait une démarche auprès du Cabinet d'Athènes pour l'engager instamment à revenir sur une détermination de nature à compromettre l'œuvre conciliatrice proposée à leurs efforts. Il a été également entendu que M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris serait instruit de cette décision.

Tout en blâmant la forme dans laquelle a été introduite la réclamation du Gouvernement Hellénique, M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie a cru devoir établir que, pour le fond, elle lui semblait conforme à la justice, et il a rappelé qu'elle coïncidait avec le point de vue qu'il avait été chargé de faire prévaloir à l'origine.

M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie a fait observer que ce serait altérer le caractère et les bases de la délibération acceptée par toutes les Puissances que de modifier une des conditions expressément stipulées et sans lesquelles la Sublime Porte signataire du Traité du 30 Mars, 1856, n'aurait pas pu adhérer à la convocation de la Conférence.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France a reconnu que l'accord ne s'était pas établi immédiatement sur le rôle qui serait attribué au Gouvernement Hellénique, et que le Cabinet de St. Pétersbourg avait, dans le principe, exprimé le désir de voir la position de la Grèce assimilée entièrement à celle de la Turquie. Mais il n'en était pas moins vrai que le dissentiment sur ce point avait été écarté, et que les Cabinets, dans un intérêt de conciliation, avaient unanimement consenti à ce que la Grèce fût admise, à titre consultatif.

La discussion étant close sur cet incident, les Plénipotentiaires ont pensé qu'il y avait lieu d'informer immédiatement la Turquie et la Grèce de la constitution de la Conférence. Ils ont été en même temps d'avis, en raison de l'urgence, d'inviter sans retard les deux Gouvernements à ne rien changer au *statu quo* actuel, et à s'abstenir de toute mesure pouvant avoir pour effet d'entraver la mission des Puissances par la pression des événements extérieurs.

M. le Président de la Conférence a proposé, pour réaliser cette pensée, de faire parvenir à la Sublime Porte et au Cabinet Hellénique la dépêche télégraphique suivante dont la rédaction a été adoptée :—

“Les Plénipotentiaires des Cours signataires du Traité de Paris réunis pour rechercher les moyens d'apaiser le différend qui s'est élevé entre la Turquie et la Grèce, accomplissent un premier devoir en faisant connaître aux deux parties intéressées que la Conférence s'est constituée aujourd'hui.

“Les réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum remis par le Ministre de Turquie à Athènes au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce se trouvant dès à présent soumises à leur examen, les Puissances ont la persuasion que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan et celui de Sa Majesté Hellénique s'interdiront scrupuleusement tout ce qui serait de nature, en modifiant le *statu quo*, à rendre plus difficile la tâche qu'elles ont acceptée. Elles n'hésitent donc pas à faire appel à la modération de la Sublime Porte, et à lui

demander de suspendre jusqu'à la clôture des travaux de la Conférence l'exécution des mesures comminatoires annoncées dans son ultimatum du 11 Décembre, 1868. Elles croient devoir inviter en même temps le Gouvernement Hellénique à prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour empêcher sur son territoire toute manifestation hostile ou toute expédition armée, par terre ou par mer, qui pourrait faire naître un conflit avec les forces Ottomanes."

Selon le vœu qui lui a été exprimé, M. le Marquis de Lavalette s'est chargé de porter cette Déclaration collective à la connaissance de la Turquie et de la Grèce par l'entremise de l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français à Constantinople, et de son Ministre à Athènes. Les Plénipotentiaires de l'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande Bretagne, de l'Italie, de la Prusse, et de la Russie, se sont engagés à demander par le télégraphe à leurs Cours d'appuyer la démarche de la France ; et, après avoir pourvu ainsi aux mesures conservatoires qu'il lui appartenait de prendre pour prévenir, autant qu'il dépend d'elle, toute chance de complication jusqu'à l'accomplissement de sa tâche, la Conférence s'est ajournée au 12 Janvier.

Fait à Paris, le neuf Janvier, mil huit cent soixante-neuf.

(Suivent les signatures.)

(Translation.)

Present :

Prince Metternich, Ambassador of Austria-Hungary ;

The Marquis de Lavalette, Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, Member of the Privy Council, Senator of the Empire ;

Lord Lyons, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland ;

The Chevalier Nigra, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Italy ;

Count de Solms, Minister Plenipotentiary of Prussia and of the Confederation of Northern Germany ;

Aide-de-camp General Count Stackelberg, Ambassador Extraordinary of Russia ;

Mehemet Djemil Pasha, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Turkey ;

M. Desprez, Director of Political Affairs in the Department for Foreign Affairs, Secretary to the Conference.

THE Powers parties to the Treaty of the 30th of March, 1856, having agreed to seek in conjunction, and in conformity with the Protocol of the 14th of the April following, the means of settling the difference which has arisen between Turkey and Greece, have authorized their Representatives at Paris to assemble in Conference.

The Plenipotentiaries assembled this day at the residence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and intrusted the presidency over their labours to the Marquis de Lavalette, Minister for Foreign Affairs to His Majesty the Emperor of the French, Member of his Privy Council, Senator of the Empire. On his proposal, the Conference named as Secretary M. Desprez, Councillor of State, and Director in the Department for Foreign Affairs.

The full powers were verified and found to be correct and in due form.

The French Plenipotentiary opened the deliberations by testifying to the conciliatory spirit by which all the Cabinets have shown themselves to be animated in the negotiations which led to the assembling of the Conference. He called attention to the fact that, in accordance with the understanding arrived at, the sole and precise object laid down for the Plenipotentiaries was to examine how far there were grounds to justify the demands made in the ultimatum addressed by Turkey to the Greek Government.

It had been thought right that Greece should be heard, and, in the same agreement which circumscribed the duties of the Conference, it had been settled that the Representative of the Hellenic Government should be invited to it with a consultative voice.

A discussion arose upon a difficulty in connection with this subject which occurred at the very moment when the sitting was about to be opened. The Greek Minister, informed of the hour of meeting of the Conference, in which he was to take his seat as soon as it was constituted, had just announced to the Marquis de Lavalette that, according to instructions which he had received in the morning, he was not authorized to assist at the deliberations unless he were admitted on a perfectly equal footing with the Turkish Ambassador.

M. Rangabé, having been introduced, at the request of the Russian Plenipotentiary, to give his explanations himself, read a note worded in this sense, and declaring that he was instructed to withdraw if his demand were not complied with.

The Plenipotentiaries did not consider that they ought to accept the co-operation of the Greek Minister on the conditions which he was instructed to stipulate for, and they were unanimous in expressing the surprise and regret which the communication they had just heard was calculated to cause them.

In fact, the Hellenic Government would have had the necessary time for setting forth their objections before this period if they had considered it advisable to make any.

The Conference was established between the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris, in accordance with the spirit of the Protocol of April 14, 1856. Greece was not a Contracting Party in the great transactions of that time. It was for this reason alone, said the French Plenipotentiary, and not with the idea of ignoring her position, her dignity, or her rights, that she was not invited to attend on the same footing as Turkey.

Recognizing the grave responsibility which the Hellenic Government would incur if they persisted in the unexpected determination to hold aloof, the Conference decided that the President, in the name and with the support of all the other Courts, should take steps earnestly to recommend the Cabinet of Athens to think better of a determination calculated to compromise the conciliatory work they proposed to bring about. It was likewise understood that the Greek Minister at Paris should be informed of this decision.

While censuring the form in which the claim of the Hellenic Government was made, the Russian Plenipotentiary thought it his duty to declare that, in the main, it seemed to him to be just; and he called attention to the fact that it agreed with the point of view which he had been originally instructed to maintain.

The Turkish Ambassador pointed out that, to modify one of the conditions expressly stipulated, and without which the Sublime Porte, as a party to the Treaty of March 30, 1856, would not have been able to accede to the assembling of the Conference, would be to alter the character and the bases of the deliberation accepted by all the Powers.

The French Plenipotentiary admitted that unanimity as to the part which should be assigned to the Hellenic Government had not been established immediately, and that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had, at the outset, expressed a desire to see the position of Greece on an entire equality with that of Turkey. But it was no less a fact that the objection on this head had been set aside, and that the Cabinets, in the interests of conciliation, had unanimously consented to Greece being admitted with a consultative voice.

The discussion on this incident being ended, the Plenipotentiaries considered it advisable immediately to inform Turkey and Greece of the opening of the Conference. They, at the same time, agreed, on account of the urgency of the case, to call upon the two Governments without delay to change nothing in the existing *status quo*, and to abstain from any measure which might have the effect of impeding the endeavours of the Powers by the pressure of events from without.

The President of the Conference, in order to carry this idea into effect, proposed to address to the Sublime Porte and to the Hellenic Cabinet the following telegraphic despatch, the text of which was adopted. :—

“The Plenipotentiaries of the Courts signatories of the Treaty of Paris, assembled to inquire into the means of settling the difference which has arisen between Turkey and Greece, fulfil their first duty in acquainting the two interested parties that the Conference was this day constituted.

“The demands set forth in the ultimatum presented by the Turkish Minister at Athens to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs being from this moment submitted to them for examination, the Powers are persuaded that the Government of His Majesty the Sultan, and that of His Hellenic Majesty, will scrupulously refrain from everything which, by modifying the *status quo*, might make the task they have undertaken more difficult. They, therefore, do not hesitate to appeal to the moderation of the Sublime Porte, and to invite it to suspend, until the closing of the labours of the Conference, the execution of the threatening measures announced in its ultimatum of the 11th December, 1868. They consider it their duty, at the same time, to invite the Greek Government to take such measures as may be necessary to prevent, on their territory, any hostile manifestation or armed expedition by sea or by land, which might lead to a conflict with the Ottoman forces.”

In accordance with the desire expressed to him, the Marquis de Lavalette undertook to bring this collective Declaration to the knowledge of Turkey and Greece, through the Ambassador of His Majesty the Emperor of the French at Constantinople, and his Minister at Athens. The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, of Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia, pledged themselves to request their respective Courts, by

telegraph, to support the action of France; and having thus provided for the precautionary measures which it was its duty to take, in order to prevent, as far as depended upon it, any chance of a complication before this task was accomplished, the Conference adjourned till the 12th of January.

Done at Paris, January 9, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

No. 138.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 15, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of four papers relating to the Turco-Greek question. These papers are:—

1. M. Rangabé's letter to the President of the Conference, stating that he can only take part in its deliberations on a footing of entire equality with the Turkish Plenipotentiary.

2. The telegram addressed by the French Ambassador at Constantinople to M. de Lavalette in reply to that dispatched to him by the latter, embodying the Resolutions arrived at in the first sitting of the Conference.

3. A telegram of the 12th instant addressed by M. de Lavalette to the French Ambassador at Constantinople insisting in the name of the Conference on the maintenance of the *status quo*, &c., during the continuance of its deliberations.

4. Telegram of the 13th instant from the French Ambassador at Constantinople, in reply to the above, stating that the Grand Vizier engages for the present to maintain the *status quo*.

All these papers have been at different times alluded to in the Conference; and, as mention of them will no doubt appear in the Protocols, I think it advisable to furnish your Lordship with copies of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 138.

M. Rangabé to the President of the Conference.

M. le Président,

JE regrette infiniment de ne pouvoir me rendre à l'invitation que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser d'assister aux séances de la Conférence avec voix consultative.

L'objet de la Conférence étant de traiter d'un différend qui s'est élevé entre la Grèce et la Turquie, la Grèce ne peut y participer si elle n'y figure à titre de parité avec la partie adverse. Elle ne peut accepter une position d'infériorité.

Si des deux Puissances en litige, l'une est appelée à siéger dans la Conférence à titre de Grande Puissance, la Grèce, sans vouloir s'appesantir sur cette appréciation, ne peut pas admettre que les Grandes Puissances aient seules le droit d'avoir dans leurs propres causes une voix qui serait refusée à leurs adversaires.

Si c'est à titre de signataire du Traité de 1856 que la Turquie est admise à la Conférence et que la Grèce en est exclue, je dois faire observer que l'incident spécial auquel la Conférence se propose de borner ses travaux est entièrement étranger aux stipulations de ce Traité, qui, étant pris pour base de la composition de la Conférence, a le grand inconvénient de faire une part inégale aux deux Parties également intéressées qui mettent en avant des griefs mutuels.

Que la Conférence ait en vue une œuvre d'arbitrage ou de conciliation, la Grèce ne doit, dans l'un ou l'autre cas, y assister qu'à titre égal avec la Turquie.

C'est avec confiance dans les sentiments d'équité des Membres de la Conférence que j'ai l'honneur de leur soumettre cette réclamation. Dans le cas où la Conférence ne croirait point devoir y faire droit, j'ai l'ordre de me retirer et de ne pas participer à ses délibérations.

(Signé) RANGABE.

(Translation.)

M. le Président,

I REGRET extremely not being able to avail myself of the invitation which you have done me the honour of addressing to me to assist at the meetings of the Conference with a consultative voice.

The object of the Conference being to treat of a difference which has arisen between Turkey and Greece, Greece cannot participate in it unless she figures on equal terms with the adverse party. She cannot accept a position of inferiority.

If, of the two Powers parties to the dispute, one is invited to sit at the Conference by the title of a "Great Power," Greece, without wishing to expatiate on this view, cannot admit that the Great Powers have alone the right to have, in their own affairs, a voice which is to be refused to their adversaries.

If it is as a signatory of the Treaty of 1856 that Turkey is admitted to the Conference and that Greece is excluded from it, I must observe that the particular point to which the Conference proposes to limit its labours is entirely foreign to the stipulations of that Treaty, which, being taken as the basis of the composition of the Conference, has the great inconvenience of giving an unequal share to the two Parties equally interested, who put forward mutual wrongs.

Whether the Conference has in view a work of arbitration or of conciliation, Greece ought not in either case to take part in it except on an equal footing with Turkey.

It is with confidence in the feelings of equity of the Members of the Conference that I have the honour to submit to them this demand. In the event of the Conference not thinking it right to accede to it, I have orders to retire and to take no part in its deliberations.

(Signed) RANGABE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 138.

M. Bourée to M. de Lavalette.

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 11 Janvier, 1869.

J'AI remis à la Porte ainsi qu'aux Représentants des Puissances votre télégramme du 9. Il résulte de la réponse que m'a fait Aali Pacha que les modifications récentes dont les mesures décrétées à la suite de l'ultimatum ont été l'objet prouvaient assez la modération du Gouvernement Ottoman; il m'a en outre renouvelé l'assurance que ce dernier éviterait soigneusement tout ce qui serait de nature à embarrasser les travaux de la Conférence. D'après le Grand Vizir, les mesures d'expulsion s'appliquaient uniquement aux Grecs en petit nombre dont la présence sur le territoire Turc offre un danger pour la tranquillité publique; quant aux Grecs nés en Turquie et soi-disant naturalisés par des passeports obtenus à prix d'argent, la mesure qui les concerne a coïncidé avec la rupture, mais elle n'en est pas la conséquence: l'intention de la Porte était de la maintenir même après la reprise des relations et de ne reconnaître à ses sujets pendant leur séjour en Turquie que la nationalité Ottomane. Il a ajouté que, d'ailleurs, même pour les individus de cette catégorie, les autorités Ottomanes ont reçu l'ordre de ne pas procéder par expulsion immédiate, mais au moyen de listes qu'elles devront soumettre à l'examen de la Porte, ce qui entraîne un délai de plusieurs mois. Pour ce qui est de l'interdiction des ports Ottomans au pavillon Grec, cette mesure, d'après la déclaration du Grand Vizir, ne saurait être rapportée par la Porte avant que celle-ci ne connût le résultat des travaux de la Conférence. Aali Pasha m'a dit encore qu'il avait répondu au Général Ignatieff, qui lui demandait l'éloignement d'Hobart Pacha, que ce dernier ne bloquait pas réellement Syra, dont l'entrée et la sortie restaient libres, mais seulement un pirate réfugié dans ce port; si le Gouvernement Grec s'engageait formellement vis-à-vis des Puissances à empêcher la sortie de "l'Enosis" jusqu'à jugement de la Conférence, la Porte enverrait immédiatement à l'Amiral Turc l'ordre de s'éloigner des eaux de la Grèce.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, January 11, 1869.

I HAVE communicated to the Porte, as well as to the Representatives of the Powers, your telegram of the 9th. It results from the answer made to me by Aali Pasha, that the recent modifications made in the measures decreed to follow upon the ultimatum, sufficiently proved the moderation of the Ottoman Government; he, besides, renewed to me the assurance that the latter would studiously avoid all that might be of a nature to embarrass the labours of the Conference. According to the Grand Vizier, the measures of expulsion applied solely to the small number of Greeks whose presence on Turkish territory endangers public tranquillity; as for Greeks born in Turkey, and having a so-called naturalization by means of passports obtained for money, the measure which concerns them coincided with the rupture, but is not the consequence of it: the

intention of the Porte was to maintain it, even after the renewal of relations, and to recognize for its subjects during their residence in Turkey no other than Ottoman nationality. He added that, besides, even for individuals of this category, the Ottoman authorities have received orders not to proceed by immediate expulsion, but by means of lists which they will have to submit to the examination of the Porte, thereby entailing a delay of several months. With regard to the exclusion of the Greek flag from Ottoman ports, this measure, according to the declaration of the Grand Vizier, could not be revoked by the Porte before it knew the result of the labours of the Conference. Aali Pasha told me further that he had answered General Ignatieff, who demanded from him the withdrawal of Hobart Pasha, that the latter was not in reality blockading Syra, the entrance and exit of which remained free, but only a pirate which had taken refuge in that port: if the Greek Government would enter into a formal engagement with the Powers to prevent the departure of the "Enosis" until a decision of the Conference, the Porte would send immediate orders to the Turkish Admiral to withdraw from Greek waters.

Inclosure 3 in No. 138.

M. de Lavalette to M. Bourée.

(Télégraphique.)

Paris, le 12 Janvier, 1869.

VOTRE telegramme d'hier soir entre dans des détails qui ne me permettent guère d'en préciser la portée. La règle constante appliquée dans toutes les Conférences ou les Congrès est le maintien du *statu quo*, c'est-à-dire, l'abstention de tout acte d'exécution pendant les délibérations. J'insiste au nom de tous les membres de la Conférence pour obtenir l'assentiment pur et simple au maintien du *statu quo*, et à ce qu'aucune expulsion de sujets Grecs ne soit exécutée.

Nous allons télégraphier à Athènes pour obtenir un engagement à l'égard de "l'Enosis."

Repondez-moi de suite.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, January 12, 1869.

YOUR telegram of yesterday evening enters into details which hardly allow me to estimate its exact bearing. The rule universally applied in all Conferences or Congresses is the maintenance of the *status quo*—that is to say, the abstinence from all overt act during the deliberations. I urge, in the name of all the members of the Conference, that a pure and simple assent be given to the maintenance of the *status quo*, and that no expulsion of Greek subjects shall be carried out.

We are going to telegraph to Athens in order to obtain a promise with reference to the "Enosis."

Answer me at once,

Inclosure 4 in No. 138.

M. Bourée to M. de Lavalette.

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 13 Janvier, 1869.

JE me suis acquitté vis-à-vis d'Aali Pacha de la démarche prescrite par votre dépêche télégraphique en date d'hier. Le Grand Vizir s'engage à maintenir le *statu quo*, en ce sens—qu'aucun sujet Grec ne sera expulsé jusqu'à la fin de la Conférence; le droit d'expulsion que la Porte s'est réservé s'applique uniquement dans sa pensée aux gens dangereux, et n'est que la conséquence du droit qu'a tout Gouvernement de maintenir la tranquillité publique. Aali Pacha ne pense pas qu'il y ait lieu en ce moment à procéder à aucune expulsion; mais on ne peut empêcher les Hellènes de quitter volontairement le territoire de l'Empire. La Porte est prête d'ailleurs à s'interdire tout acte qui serait de nature à embarrasser les travaux de la Conférence.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, January 13, 1869.

I HAVE spoken to Aali Pasha in the sense of your telegraphic despatch dated yesterday. The Grand Vizier agrees to maintain the *status quo*, in this sense—that no

Greek subject shall be expelled until the end of the Conference; the right of expulsion which the Porte has reserved applies in its intention solely to dangerous persons, and is but the consequence of the right which every Government has to maintain public tranquillity. Aali Pasha does not think that there is at present occasion to proceed to any expulsion; but the Greeks cannot be prevented from voluntarily leaving the territory of the Empire. The Porte is besides ready to abstain from any act which might be of a nature to embarrass the labours of the Conference.

No. 139.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 15, 1869.

I SAW the Marquis de Lavalette yesterday, and had some further conversation with him on the subject on which we had so often spoken, the admission of Greece to the Conference.

I observed that, as his Excellency was well aware, Her Majesty's Government had all along been of opinion that the best plan would be, if possible, to admit a Greek Representative on the same terms as the Plenipotentiaries of the other Powers, I added, that even now, at the last hour, and after all that had occurred, Her Majesty's Government would gladly see this plan adopted.

M. de Lavalette replied that the Government of the Emperor had also been of opinion that to admit Greece with a "voix délibérative" would abstractedly be the most desirable arrangement. But it was not a question of what was desirable, but of what was possible. Now, it would have been perfectly impossible to induce the Porte to take part if a Greek Representative had been made a member of the body. I knew how distasteful the whole question of a Conference had been to Turkey—how arduous had been the task of overcoming her objections, even to the present arrangement. He had carried a great point when he brought Turkey on the one hand, and Russia on the other, to agree to the admission of Greece "à titre consultatif." No compromise more favourable to Greece could possibly have been effected, and she herself had allowed it to be believed that she accepted it. She had, indeed, at the last moment positively rejected it; but this had certainly made no change favourable to her in the determination of the Porte. I was acquainted with the decided language of the Turkish Plenipotentiary before the Conference. I had heard him declare that he must withdraw at once, if the Greek Plenipotentiary were admitted on any other terms than those on the faith of which the Porte had agreed to take part in the proceedings.

After much consultation with M. de Lavalette, I was obliged to admit that there was, in fact, no reasonable hope of prevailing upon the Porte to yield, and that the effect of insisting upon the admission of Greece, "à titre délibératif," would be the withdrawal of the Turkish Plenipotentiary and consequent breaking up of the Conference.

It became evident, therefore, that the only way to prevent a total failure was to agree to go on without a Greek Representative. I pointed out to M. de Lavalette that in this case we ought still to give Greece every means in our power to communicate to us any statements she desired to put forward, and should even give her an opportunity of making observations on our decisions.

M. de Lavalette said he would go as far as he could in agreeing to any proposals which I might make in the Conference for this purpose. He sincerely regretted that it was impossible, without breaking up the Conference altogether, to agree to the recommendation to admit a Greek Plenipotentiary "à titre délibératif."

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.*

No. 140.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1869.

BARON BRUNNOW called upon me this afternoon, to say that the Emperor had authorized Count Stackelberg to sign the Declaration of the Conference; and that the Russian Ministers at Constantinople and at Athens would be instructed to support it.

I asked Baron Brunnow if the Declaration had been finally agreed to by the Conference, and whether its precise terms were known at St. Petersburg.

His Excellency said, he had no further information on the subject, and had only been instructed to make known to me that the Declaration would be signed by the Russian Plenipotentiary at the Conference.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 141.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 16, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship a copy of Protocol No. 2 of the sitting of the Conference on the differences between Turkey and Greece, which was held on the 12th instant, at the Imperial Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 141.

Protocol (No. 2) of Conference held at Paris, January 12, 1869.

Présents :

MM. les Plénipotentiaires	de l'Autriche-Hongrie ;
„	de la France ;
„	de la Grande Bretagne ;
„	de l'Italie ;
„	de la Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne
	du Nord ;
„	de la Russie ;
„	de la Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

LE Protocole de la précédente séance est lu et approuvé.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France annonce que, suivant le vœu exprimé dans la première réunion, la Déclaration collective adoptée à l'effet de demander à la Turquie et à la Grèce le maintien du *statu quo*, a été immédiatement expédiée par le télégraphe à l'issue des délibérations.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette donne ensuite communication de la dépêche télégraphique adressée par lui à Athènes, conformément au Protocole dont elle reproduit les termes essentiels, afin d'inviter la Grèce, au nom de la Conférence, à revenir sur la détermination annoncée par son Ministre à Paris.

Sur la demande de M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie, il est convenu que cette dépêche sera annexée au Protocole de la présente séance.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette constate qu'il n'a encore reçu aucune réponse ni de Constantinople ni d'Athènes, et que rien jusqu'ici ne fait prévoir la détermination du Gouvernement Hellénique. Chargé de l'exécution des résolutions communes, le Président de la Conférence n'avait pas cru pouvoir prendre sur lui de différer la réunion fixée pour aujourd'hui ; mais, dans l'état des choses, il est disposé à ne pas insister pour que la discussion s'ouvre dès à présent sur les questions que la Conférence est appelée à examiner, et il pense que la délibération pourrait être ajournée au 14 Janvier.

M. le Comte de Stackelberg remercie M. le Plénipotentiaire de France de cette proposition, en ajoutant que l'absence d'un Représentant de la Grèce modifierait le caractère de la Conférence et ne pourrait être considérée par lui comme indifférente pour la suite des délibérations.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France déclare qu'il est prêt à faire tout ce qui sera d'accord avec son devoir ; mais qu'il croirait difficile de subordonner entièrement l'œuvre commune à la réponse du Gouvernement Hellénique. Il prie donc ses collègues d'envisager l'hypothèse d'un refus de la part du Cabinet d'Athènes, et de consulter leurs Cours sur la question de savoir quel parti la Conférence aurait à prendre dans cette éventualité.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre exprime l'espoir que la détermination de la Grèce sera conforme au vœu qui lui a été transmis.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette désire vivement que cet espoir se réalise ; mais il juge essentiel que, dans le cas contraire, chacun des Plénipotentiaires puisse faire connaître l'opinion de son Gouvernement sur la situation et décider de la suite à donner aux travaux de la Conférence.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie déclare qu'il regarde également comme nécessaire que tous les Représentants des Puissances prennent sans retard les ordres de leurs Cours.

Cet avis est unanimement adopté, et la prochaine séance demeure fixée au 14 Janvier, suivant la proposition de M. le Président de la Conférence.

Fait à Paris, le 12 Janvier, 1869.

(Suivent les signatures.)

Annex to Protocol of January 12, 1869.

M. de Lavalette to Baron Baude.

(Télégraphique.)

Paris, le 10 Janvier, 1869.

CONTRAIREMENT à l'attente de tous les Plénipotentiaires, M. Rangabé est venu me faire savoir, au moment même où allait avoir lieu la première réunion de la Conférence, qu'il n'était pas autorisé à assister aux délibérations s'il n'y était appelé sur un pied d'égalité avec l'Ambassadeur de Turquie. Admis à présenter lui-même ses explications, il a confirmé la communication verbale qu'il venait de me faire, en donnant lecture d'une note signée de lui.

Ainsi que le déclare le procès-verbal de la première séance, la Conférence a été instituée entre les Cours signataires du Traité de Paris, et en vertu du Protocole du 14 Avril, 1856. C'est par cette unique raison, et non dans la pensée de méconnaître la situation, la dignité ou les droits de la Grèce, que son Représentant a été appelé à y figurer à titre consultatif. Les Plénipotentiaires sont tombés d'accord pour reconnaître la grave responsabilité qui incomberait au Gouvernement Hellénique s'il persistait dans la résolution inattendu de s'abstenir ; et ils ont décidé que le Président, au nom de la Conférence, inviterait le Cabinet d'Athènes à revenir sur une détermination de nature à compromettre l'œuvre de conciliation proposée à leurs efforts. Il a été convenu que les autres Cabinets appuieraient cette démarche. Transmettez-moi, dans le plus bref délai possible, la réponse du Gouvernement Grec.

(Signé) LAVALETTE.

(Translation.)

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

” ” France ;

” ” Great Britain ;

” ” Italy ;

” ” Prussia and the North German Confederation ;

” ” Russia ;

” ” Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE Protocol of the preceding sitting is read and approved.

The Plenipotentiary of France announces that, in accordance with the wish expressed in the first meeting, the collective Declaration adopted with the object of requiring from Turkey and Greece the maintenance of the *status quo* was immediately sent by telegraph after the close of the deliberations.

The Marquis de Lavalette then communicates the telegraphic despatch addressed by him to Athens, in conformity with the Protocol, the essential terms of which it reproduces, in order to invite Greece in the name of the Conference to revoke the decision announced by her Minister at Paris.

At the request of the Russian Plenipotentiary it is agreed that this despatch shall be annexed to the Protocol of the present sitting.

The Marquis de Lavalette states that he has received as yet no answer either from

Constantinople or from Athens, and that so far there is nothing to indicate what the determination of the Greek Government may be. The President of the Conference, charged with the execution of the common resolutions, had not thought that he could take upon himself to defer the meeting fixed for to-day, but, under the circumstances, he is disposed not to insist that the discussion of the questions which the Conference is assembled to examine should be entered upon at the present moment, and he is of opinion that the deliberation might be adjourned to the 14th of January.

Count Stackelberg thanks the French Plenipotentiary for this proposal, adding that the absence of a Greek Representative would modify the character of the Conference, and could not be considered by him as a matter of indifference with regard to the issue of its deliberations.

The Plenipotentiary of France declares that he is ready to do everything in accordance with his duty, but that he thinks it would be difficult to make their common object entirely subordinate to the answer of the Greek Government. He begs his colleagues, therefore, to be prepared for the possibility of a refusal on the part of the Cabinet of Athens, and to consult with their Courts on the question as to what line the Conference ought to take in such a case.

The English Plenipotentiary expresses the hope that the determination of Greece will be in conformity with the desire which has been communicated to her.

The Marquis de Lavalette earnestly desires that this hope may be realized; but he deems it essential that in the contrary event, each of the Plenipotentiaries should be able to make known the opinion of his Government on the state of affairs, and to decide on the course which the labours of the Conference should then take.

The Italian Plenipotentiary declares that he too considers it necessary that all the Representatives of the Powers should take the orders of their Courts without delay.

This opinion is unanimously adopted, and the next sitting remains fixed for the 14th of January, in accordance with the proposition of the President of the Conference.

Done in Paris the 12th January, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Annex to Protocol of January 12, 1869.

M. de Lavalette to Baron Baude.

(Telegraphic.)

Paris, January 10, 1869.

CONTRARY to the expectation of all the Plenipotentiaries, M. Rangabé informed me, at the very moment when the first meeting of the Conference was going to take place, that he was not authorized to be present at its deliberations unless he was invited on an equal footing with the Turkish Plenipotentiary. Admitted to give his own explanations he confirmed the verbal communication which he had just made me, reading a note signed by him.

As declared by the *procès-verbal* of the first sitting, the Conference has been instituted by the Courts parties to the Treaty of Paris, and by virtue of the Protocol of April 14, 1856. It is for this reason alone, and not with the intention of overlooking the position, the dignity, or the rights of Greece that her Representative has been called to take part in it with a consultative voice. The Plenipotentiaries are unanimous in recognising the grave responsibility which the Greek Government would incur if they persisted in their unexpected resolution of keeping aloof from it; and they have decided that the President, in the name of the Conference, should invite the Cabinet of Athens to recall a determination which might compromise the work of conciliation submitted to their labours. It has been agreed that the other Cabinets should support this step. Transmit to me, with the shortest possible delay, the answer of the Greek Government.

(Signed) LAVALETTE.

No. 142.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 18.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, January 11, 1869.

HAVING had the honour to receive last night your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, I called on Prince Gortchakoff this morning to have some conversation with his Excellency on the subject to which it refers.

I read to him the paragraphs in your Lordship's despatch which record the

assurances you had received from Baron Brunnow as to the impartiality which will be observed by Russia in the Conference, and as to her intention not to enlarge the discussion beyond the mode of bringing the existing dispute to a termination. Prince Gortchakoff observed that he still maintained these assurances, but incidents might occur to prolong the deliberations of the Conference; as, for instance, on Saturday the Greek Plenipotentiary declined to attend it unless he was received on equal terms with the Plenipotentiary of the Porte. I answered that I had believed M. Rangabé's position had been already settled. His Excellency said that he considered the concession of the parity claimed by the Greek Minister would only be an act of justice, but he had nevertheless urged the Greek Government to accept the decision of the other Powers, and he would reiterate that advice.

His Excellency afterwards read to me the telegram which M. de Lavalette has addressed in the name of the Conference to the Governments of Turkey and Greece, informing them of the commencement of its sittings, and urging the maintenance of the *status quo* until their termination; and he said that this telegram having met with his entire approval, he had instructed the Russian Representatives at Constantinople and Athens to give it their warmest support.

Before concluding our conversation I said, Her Majesty's Government are most anxious to act with Russia in the Conference, and hope if the discussion is strictly confined to the means of bringing about an arrangement of the existing dispute, that the Conference may secure the preservation of peace; but, on the other hand, they fear if that condition is not scrupulously observed, the Conference may only prove a source of danger. His Excellency answered that it might, however, be impossible to prevent incidental questions coming under discussion; for when the repatriation of the refugees is brought forward, all the Plenipotentiaries cannot be expected to recommend the adoption of measures for encouraging it, unless they receive from the Turkish Plenipotentiary satisfactory assurances as to the position which these persons will occupy on their return to Crete, and as to the treatment which they will receive there.

I said that I was not aware of there being any question before the Conference as to giving encouragement to refugees to return to Crete, and that the Greek Government was merely required not to oppose their departure, and to protect them, on their way to a place of embarkation, from the violence of ill-disposed persons. If, therefore, such irrelevant questions were thus to be introduced into the discussion, which possibly might be extended to the institutions under which Crete is to be governed, your Lordship's fears might be realized, that the Conference would compromise instead of promoting the maintenance of peace, by placing on record in its Protocols the differences of opinion existing among the Great Powers, and giving a dangerous publicity to their dissensions. Whatever could be properly done to protect the dignity and diminish the embarrassments of the King, I was sure Her Majesty's Government would be ready to do; but I believed they would consider that they could not render His Majesty a greater service than by supporting a declaration on the part of the Conference as to the rules of action by which he should be guided, and to which he could appeal against the unscrupulous proceedings of the persons by whom he is surrounded.

No. 143.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government entirely approve the language held by your Excellency to Prince Gortchakoff, as reported in your despatch of the 11th instant, respecting the course which it was advisable to adopt with regard to the deliberations of the Conference held for the settlement of the differences between Turkey and Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 144.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1869.

SINCE my telegraphic instruction to dissuade Aali Pasha from a premature rejection of the Declaration upon which the Conference had agreed, and which had received the initials of all the Plenipotentiaries, with the exception of Djemil Pasha, was dispatched,

I have received from Lord Lyons the text of that declaration as agreed upon in the Conference of the 16th instant.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that your Excellency should strongly advise the Porte to agree to the Declaration, and at the same time to empower its Representative at Paris to announce to the Conference that if the Greek Government, on being made acquainted with the terms of the Declaration, should notify to the Conference that it accepts it, the Porte, on its side, will be ready to renew relations with Greece.

Your Excellency will say that no better arrangement could be made in the Conference for the Porte, and you will point out to Aali Pasha that the Declaration applies to all the possessions of the Sultan and not to Crete alone; and that the fact that the notification as to her acceptance of the Declaration will be made by Greece to Turkey in common with the other Powers represented in the Conference will satisfy the dignity of the Porte.

Instructions to the same effect will be sent by M. de Lavalette to the French Ambassador at Constantinople.

If the Porte agrees to the Declaration, it is proposed, I understand, that the Conference should send it to Athens, accompanied with a letter to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, acquainting him in civil terms that the Conference expect that within a week the required notification shall be made to it.

I have only to add that I understand from Lord Lyons that the Conference considered that the dignity of the Sultan would be best consulted if the signature of the Turkish Plenipotentiary, whose initials were not, as I have said, affixed to the draft of Declaration, should also not be affixed to it when finally adopted by the Conference, inasmuch as the purport of it is to condemn the acts of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 145.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government approve the course pursued by your Excellency to obtain either the suspension or modification of the order for the expulsion of Greek subjects from Turkey, as reported in your despatch of the 2nd instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 146.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1869.

I APPROVE the course which your Excellency pursued, as reported in your despatch of the 5th instant, in regard to the application made by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, to take Greek subjects resident at that place under British protection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 147.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 19.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 9, 1869.

M. SPIRIDION VALAORITES, the gentleman to whom it is the King's wish to entrust the vacant post of Finance Minister, arrived here from Corfu the day before yesterday; but I understand that he has not yet accepted office.

He proposes that the National Bank shall advance to the Government a sum of 4,000,000 drachmas (142,857*l.*) in cash, and 8,000,000 drachmas (285,714*l.*) in notes, and that the Ionian Bank shall also advance a sum of 2,000,000 drachmas (71,428*l.*) in cash, and 4,000,000 drachmas (142,857*l.*) in notes; both establishments being empowered

to suspend specie payments, whilst their paper circulation would be declared a legal tender.

I need scarcely add, that even this arrangement is viewed with the greatest repugnance by both establishments; but they consider they have no option in the matter, and that, ruinous as it is to their interests, it would be unwise to compel the Government to persist in a course which will entail immediate and hopeless ruin both on the Banks and upon the kingdom generally.

No. 148.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 19.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 9, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of a curious intercepted letter from Colonel Zimbrakaki to a person in Crete, which has appeared in the semi-official paper published at Canea.

Inclosure in No. 148.

M. Zimbrakakis to M. Karkavatzo.

(Translation.)

My dear Gossip,

November $\frac{1}{13}$, 1868.

I HAVE received your letter in which you wrote to me about your sister at the Piræus, and that it was said that no assistance was afforded her, on the plea that her husband had surrendered; this is not true: the truth is that Government have no money and not only do not provide regularly for the Cretan families, but do not even pay the salaries of their civil employés; nevertheless to the Cretan families they always give something; indeed I have been told that to-morrow they will pay the allowance due to them for so many days.

Meanwhile, it is my duty to state to you, as my gossip, that Government know that Europe despairs of the Cretan question, and therefore takes no thought and makes no mention of these families; consequently, the Government consider that they spend in vain, and that the unfortunate Cretans are being uselessly ruined; however, Government dare not say so openly, because they are afraid of the Greek people, and for this reason they are anxious that the insurrection should come to an end without delay; but they seek to make it appear that the failure of the insurrection is not attributable to them, but to the Cretans. At one moment, therefore, they give out that they will send me with ample means, and at another that they will send some one else; meanwhile they deceive us all and are seeking to gain time because they know that the Cretans are hard pressed and consequently must quickly fall. Meantime, I consider that the Cretans, being already ruined, inasmuch as they have lost everything they possessed, their best course will be to continue the insurrection as long as they can, so that by this means the Sultan may perhaps be compelled to grant your last request; otherwise, I consider the Cretans lost for ever. It is true, dear Gossip, that the Greeks have deceived us, and had we known it when Aali Pasha came to Crete, it would have been a good opportunity to improve our condition. Under the circumstances, nothing is left for you but to persist in the insurrection until some other favourable opportunity presents itself; because, if the Cretans continue to surrender, and the whole of Crete submits unconditionally, then woe to the Cretans.

My compliments to all friends.

I salute you,
(Signed) JOHN ZIMBRAKAKIS.

No. 149.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 20.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 18, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose two copies of the Memorandum which was received from the Greek Minister at the fourth sitting of the Conference, and sent round to the several Plenipotentiaries for their consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

*Memorandum respecting the Turco-Greek Difference.**I.—Causes du Conflit.*

LES Puissances qui se sont réunies en Conférence, ayant décidé qu'elles se borneraient à traiter du conflit seul, sans remonter à sa source première, il est évident que la seule cause immédiate à laquelle on puisse attribuer la rupture, est à chercher dans les notes très-vives et dans l'ultimatum adressés en dernier lieu par le Gouvernement Ottoman à la Grèce. Il n'y a eu de la part de celle-ci nul fait qui pût être interprété comme une provocation. Cette attitude n'est pas un fait nouveau propre à justifier une résolution soudaine. Elle a du reste été à plusieurs reprises de la part du Ministère Grec le sujet d'explications franches, dont le Gouvernement Turc a paru comprendre la valeur et s'en contenter. Enfin remonter à cette cause éloignée, ce serait sortir des limites que la Conférence s'est tracée, et la Grèce serait alors en droit de réclamer aussi l'examen des causes qui ont déterminé sa conduite, et de chercher à justifier la vivacité de ses sympathies pour les Crétois.

Mais, a-t-on dit, c'est justement parce que les griefs étaient anciens que la coupe en était pleine ; il ne fallait qu'une goutte pour la faire déborder ; cette goutte a été l'insulte faite au Ministre de Turquie par les volontaires qui, allant en Crète, ont passé sous ses fenêtres, en plein jour, drapeau déployé, sans que le Gouvernement Grec osât ou voulût s'y opposer. Ce fait, tout déplorable qu'il serait même dans le cas où les auteurs n'eussent eu en vue que de braver ou de compromettre le Gouvernement, n'en serait pas moins de l'ordre de ceux qui, entre Gouvernements soucieux du repos du monde, s'arrangent par des explications ou des réparations demandées et reçues dans un esprit de conciliation. Mais l'incident n'a pas eu lieu ; M. Delyanni, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce, dans une de ses réponses à M. Photiades Bey, le lui dit expressément. Cette dénégation, qui eut été impossible si elle n'était pas vraie, est restée sans réponse. On a donc agi à Constantinople avec une précipitation regrettable sur une nouvelle sans fondement, trop légèrement accueillie et communiquée. Le conflit a été provoqué par un ultimatum qu'aucune cause immédiate et nouvelle ne motivait.

II.—Ultimatum.

Passons à l'ultimatum lui-même, examinons-en les conditions, pour voir ce qu'elles ont de pratique et de juste, et jusqu'à quel point la Grèce se doit à elle-même de les repousser, ou peut s'y conformer pour servir les intérêts de la paix. Ces conditions sont au nombre de cinq. Nous les citons dans l'ordre invers de leur importance.

1er Point.—Que la Grèce assume l'obligation expresse de se conformer à l'avenir aux Traités existants entre elle et la Turquie, et en général aux lois internationales. Par sa généralité même ce point est sans portée pratique. Tout Etat constitué est tenu d'observer les obligations auxquelles la Turquie veut soumettre la Grèce. C'est le Gouvernement Grec au contraire qui a dû rappeler souvent à la Turquie l'observation des Traités existants, particulièrement de ceux qui concernent la poursuite du brigandage aux frontières ; sa sécurité et son repos y étaient intéressés. Ses réclamations sont restées impuissantes ; plus d'une fois elle a dû en appeler aux Puissances Protectrices.

2ème Point.—Punir, conformément aux lois, ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'attaques contre des soldats et des citoyens Ottomans, et indemniser les victimes de ces crimes.

Tel qu'il est formulé ce point ne saurait avoir trait aux Grecs qui se battent en Crète. Les notions les plus élémentaires du droit des gens s'opposent à une supposition pareille. Il s'applique probablement à un grief inconnu jusqu'ici, dont on ignorerait la cause, si M. Delyanni ne la signalait à M. Photiades Bey lui-même, dans sa note restée sur ce point sans réponse. D'après le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce, un Albanais, sujet Ottoman, s'est pris à Syra de querelle avec un autre Albanais, également sujet Ottoman, et lui a donné un coup de poignard. La police se livra à des poursuites contre le coupable, il réussit à s'évader et à quitter la Grèce. Est-ce là un incident de nature à justifier des réclamations et une rupture ?

3ème Point.—Que les familles Crétois puissent s'embarquer librement pour rentrer dans leurs foyers, et que le Gouvernement Grec protège efficacement leur repatriement.

La Grèce n'aura rien à objecter à ce point. De tout temps le Gouvernement Grec a déclaré que les Crétois, qui avaient pleine liberté de chercher un refuge sur son territoire, y étaient accueillis avec sympathie, et entretenus par les dons particuliers et par de grands sacrifices de l'Etat, n'étaient pas moins libres, conformément aux lois du

pays, d'en partir quand bon leur semblerait. A deux ou trois reprises quelques Candiotès, mécontents de voir un certain nombre des leurs s'en aller, et désertar, comme ils pensaient, leur cause, ont tenté de les empêcher par des voies de fait. Ils leurs adressèrent des injures, les attaquèrent même en s'emparant de leurs effets. La police intervint, dispersa les perturbateurs, rétablit l'ordre, et permit à ceux qui voulaient partir de s'embarquer. Le Gouvernement Grec agit dans cette circonstance avec une sévérité qui alla jusqu'à compromettre gravement sa popularité; car sur des indices assez plausibles, on croyait généralement que c'était la Légation de Turquie, qui, par des efforts de tout genre et au moyen d'argent, déterminait plusieurs familles à rentrer en Crète, afin de donner créance à ce qui a été souvent et trop prématurément affirmé, que la Crète était soumise, et heureuse de l'être. Après que les autorités Grecques eurent reprimé une ou deux fois ces désordres, ils ne se reproduisirent plus; quarante embarquements eurent lieu sans entrave, avant que l'ultimatum Turc n'en eût fait un sujet sérieux de rupture. Le jour même où il était présenté à Athènes, 200 Crétois s'embarquaient, sans aucun empêchement. La Turquie a frété des bâtiments Autrichiens ou Français pour le transport des Crétois; elle a paru croire qu'il était nécessaire de les faire escorter par des bâtiments de guerre des Puissances. La Grèce n'y fit pas d'opposition; elle gagnait à avoir des témoins de sa conduite à l'égard du départ des Crétois, et à faire constater que si sur 60,000 réfugiés, il n'y a que 4,000 qui soient retournés en Crète, ce n'était nullement de sa faute. Aucune mesure pour faciliter le transport des familles qui voudraient spontanément quitter le pays, ne sera entravée par le Gouvernement Grec.

4ème Point.—Que les bateaux "l'Enosis," la "Crète," et le "Panhellénion," soient désarmés, ou qu'au moins les ports Grecs leur soient fermés.

Ce point, et le suivant, sont les seuls qui aient une importance réelle, bien qu'il soit naturel de croire qu'une ou deux petites croisières, et quelques centaines de volontaires, ne peuvent pas faire un tort sérieux aux efforts de l'Empire Ottoman pour soumettre l'île insurgée.

D'abord il importe d'observer que ces bateaux n'appartiennent pas à l'Etat, comme quelques journaux l'ont dit. Ils sont la propriété privée d'une Compagnie de Navigation. L'un ou l'autre ont fait autrefois partie de la marine Royale; ils ont été vendus depuis plusieurs années à la Compagnie.

Ce ne sont pas non plus des bâtiments pirates. On ne désigne de ce nom sinistre que ceux qui pillent et assassinent en haute mer pour s'emparer du bien d'autrui. On n'a jamais considéré comme pirates des hommes qui, avec un entier désintéressement, et à travers mille dangers, vont porter l'obole des souscriptions volontaires et de la nourriture à des populations affamées.

Ils sont tout aussi peu des corsaires, comme on l'a prétendu parfois. Un corsaire est celui qui, muni de lettres de marque, attaque des navires sous pavillon ennemi, et s'en empare pour nuire aux intérêts commerciaux de la nation avec laquelle la sienne est en guerre. La course a été abolie pour les Puissances Contractantes de 1856, auxquelles la Grèce s'est jointe par un acte officiel.

Les bâtiments dont il s'agit appartiennent donc à des particuliers. Que ce soit l'amour du gain ou un sentiment plus désintéressé qui les stimule, ils vont forcer le blocus pour porter des provisions aux Crétois, de temps à autre aussi des munitions et des armes. Ils sont de la nature de ceux que les Anglais désignent sous le nom de "blockade-runners." Leurs opérations sont familières aux marins Grecs. Pendant la grande Révolution Française et sous le régime du système Continental, les bâtiments Hydriotes, chargés de blé, allaient, bravant tous les dangers, en approvisionner les ports bloqués d'Espagne. C'est ainsi que Hydra s'enrichit. L'Angleterre n'en rendit pas alors la Porte responsable, bien que les principes les plus éclairés du droit des gens n'eussent pas encore généralement pénétrés dans les constitutions de tous les pays civilisés. Le principe généralement admis aujourd'hui, c'est que lorsqu'une côte est déclarée en état de blocus, les bâtiments de commerce neutres n'ont pas la permission d'y aborder. Ils peuvent le tenter, mais à leurs risques et périls; et la Puissance qui a déclaré le blocus est en droit de tirer sur eux pour les en empêcher, ou, les ayant capturés, de disposer de la cargaison selon ses propres lois. Voilà comment s'exprime à ce sujet Pinheiro Ferreira, l'éditeur et commentateur de Martens: "Lorsque une Puissance belligérante déclare une partie quelconque de la côte ennemie en état de blocus vis-à-vis des autres nations dont elle est cependant dans l'intention de reconnaître la neutralité, sa déclaration se borne à avertir les vaisseaux de ces nations que ce ne sera qu'à leurs périls et dangers qu'ils pourront hasarder de forcer le blocus, sans que cette déclaration entraîne ni le devoir d'y obtempérer, ni par conséquence le droit de punir ceux qui n'en auraient point tenu compte."

Même au sujet du traitement de la cargaison, le droit positif n'est pas le même chez toutes les nations; il a été diversement réglé par divers Traités. Ordinairement "les objets qui servent directement à la guerre, et dont l'usage n'est pas douteux, tels que les armes, les boulets, bombes, la poudre à canon, les soldats, les chevaux, &c.," sont considérés comme contrebande de guerre; mais les autres marchandises, et notamment les vivres, sont libres (Martens, ii, § 318); et Martens rappelle qu'il existe deux Traités qui permettent aux bateaux de commerce neutres de porter même des armes à l'ennemi: "Aujourd'hui," ajoute le même publiciste, "presque tous les Traités de Commerce portent que dans la règle on ne confisquera que les marchandises de contrebande, en permettant au vaisseau de continuer son voyage avec le reste de sa cargaison, et que le navire neutre ne sera jamais confisqué." Le Traité entre la Prusse et l'Amérique de 1785 va encore plus loin, et règle (Article 13) que "même la contrebande ne sera pas confisquée, mais seulement détenue."—(Martens, Recueil, c. ii, p. 566.)

Tels sont les principes du droit des gens à l'égard des navires appartenant à des neutres, et telle est leur application la plus générale dans le droit positif. Rien ne justifie un belligérant, s'il ne réussit pas à arrêter un navire qui rompt son blocus, à s'en prendre à l'Etat neutre auquel ce navire appartient, et à en exiger de le prendre pour lui.

Quant aux nations elles-mêmes, on ne peut faire remonter à elles la responsabilité de la conduite des navires qui portent leur pavillon, ou de leurs sujets en général, que si, par des dispositions légales, elles autorisent l'envoi des objets de guerre à l'un des belligérants en le défendant pour l'autre. Voici les termes dans lesquels Martens s'exprime à ce sujet (ii, § 315):—"La nation neutre blesse les devoirs naturels de la neutralité dont le caractère essentiel est l'impartialité: 1. Si elle permet à ses sujets le transport de munitions de guerre vers l'une des Puissances belligérantes en le leur défendant vers l'autre. . . . 3. Si, sans se borner à permettre le commerce à ses sujets, elle-même envoie des munitions de guerre à l'une des Puissances belligérantes," &c. Or, le Gouvernement Grec n'a pris nulle disposition de la nature de celles prévues dans l'Article 1, et il ne met ni n'a le droit de mettre aucun empêchement à ceux de ses sujets, s'il s'en trouvait, qui voudraient transporter des munitions de guerre aux Turcs. Lui-même il n'en envoie point aux Crétois.

On ne dira pas que ces principes du droit des gens s'appliquent aux belligérants, tandis que les Crétois sont des sujets du Sultan, et que la Crète fait partie intégrante de la Turquie. Dans ce cas les navires dont il est question ne seraient que des contrebandiers, passibles des lois applicables à la simple contrebande.

Quant au droit de visite, que le Vice-Amiral Turc, Hobart Pacha, a probablement voulu appliquer en vue du port de Syra, sans parler du lieu où il a cru devoir l'exercer et de la manière dont il s'y est pris, voici ce qu'en dit le publiciste Portugais déjà cité (Pinheiro Ferreira, note 92 à Martens, ii, p. 273): "Ce droit de notre part n'entraîne pas à la charge du neutre le devoir de se laisser visiter. . . . Les vaisseaux que nous sommions d'amener . . . auraient le droit d'y résister s'ils croyaient notre sommation indue, et qu'ils eussent le moyen de repousser la force par la force. . . . Il est donc faux que les vaisseaux rencontrés par les vaisseaux des Puissances belligérantes soient tenus de se laisser visiter sous peine d'être traités comme coupables envers celui qui leur en aurait fait l'injonction."

Si un navire neutre n'est pas en devoir de se soumettre à la visite, et a le droit d'y résister même par la force, lorsqu'il le peut, à plus forte raison on ne peut faire peser la responsabilité de la conduite et de la résistance de ce navire à la Puissance dont il porte le pavillon.

5ème Point.—Que les bandes de volontaires existantes soient dispersées, et que la formation de nouvelles bandes soit prévenue.

La première partie de ce point ne peut trouver son application. En effet, au moment où l'ultimatum a été présentée, et depuis, aucune bande de volontaires n'a existé en Grèce.

Pour ce qui est de l'avenir, le droit des gens n'impose aucun devoir et ne donne aucun droit au Gouvernement Grec pour empêcher ses sujets d'aller se battre en Crète ou ailleurs pour tel parti qu'il leur plairait. "Ce principe," dit Pinheiro Ferreira (Martens ii, Note 86), "ne saurait être admis que dans la code des nations où les hommes ne sont que des serfs attachés à la glèbe. Mais partout ailleurs où l'on saura que la liberté individuelle est un des droits de l'homme dont aucune loi positive ne peut le dépouiller, chacun pourra prendre le parti de telle nation actuellement en guerre qu'il croira à propos, sans que celle dont il fait partie, et qui reste neutre entre les deux belligérantes, ait droit de l'en empêcher, et par conséquent sans qu'elle en demeure

responsable envers l'autre nation belligérante." Or, en Grèce, les hommes ne sont pas des serfs, et ce principe n'est pas admis dans le code. Des Grecs ont pris part à titre de volontaires à toutes les guerres récentes ; des Européens de toutes nations se battaient aux Etats Unis, dans les rangs des armées du Nord ou du Sud ; des Français en grand nombre ont souvent combattu pour les Polonais ; la Grèce, pendant la Guerre de l'Indépendance, comptait parmi ses défenseurs des Français, des Anglais, des Allemands, compagnons d'armes de Fabrier, de Cochrane. Pendant les guerres civiles en Grèce, Tafilbusi, un Turc, qui occupe maintenant un poste important à Constantinople, venait avec une bande nombreuse s'enrôler dans les rangs de l'un des partis contendants, et dans la dernière insurrection contre le Roi Othon, des Turcs volontaires ont pris fait et cause pour les insurgés, sans que la Grèce songeât jamais à rendre la Porte responsable de la conduite de ses sujets. En Crète même, des volontaires des différentes parties de l'Europe soutiennent, par les armes, la cause des insurgés ; et de l'autre côté, l'Anglais Hobart Pacha commande la flotte Turque. L'Angleterre n'y a pas mis d'empêchement ; elle n'en avait pas le droit : mais dans son désir de garder une stricte neutralité, elle a refusé à ses officiers supérieurs l'autorisation de servir dans la flotte de l'un des belligérants : là se bornait son autorité. Il en est de même en Grèce. Son Gouvernement ne pouvait pas défendre à Petropoulaki d'aller, comme Hobart Pacha, courir les risques de la guerre en Crète ; la Constitution et les lois du pays ne l'y autorisent point : mais il pouvait interdire à ses officiers et à ses soldats d'y participer ; c'est ce qu'il a fait. Quelques soldats ayant déserté leurs corps pour suivre Pétropoulaki, le Ministre de la Guerre publia, antérieurement à l'ultimatum, des ordres sévères, fit arrêter plusieurs d'entre eux et les punit comme déserteurs. Les Annexes *sub lit.* A et B en font foi. Il remplit par là ce que lui imposaient les obligations internationales, en se prévalant du droit que lui accorde la législation du pays.

Mais en admettant que rien n'oblige ni n'autorise le Gouvernement Grec d'entraver la liberté des volontaires isolés qui veulent aller en Crète à leurs risques et périls, peut-être prétendra-t-on que c'est au départ de bandes armées qu'il peut et doit s'opposer. Il pourrait, pour le faire, profiter de l'Article 10 de la Constitution, lequel autorisant les réunions sans armes, interdit implicitement les réunions armées ; et aussi de l'Article 127 du Code Pénal Grec, qui punit de mort ceux qui, sans l'autorisation du Gouvernement, recrutent, ou se laissent recruter, ou qui s'arrogent un commandement sur terre ou sur mer ; de même de l'Article 136, qui punit de deux années d'emprisonnement les recrutements non autorisés pour le service d'une Puissance étrangère. Enfin, on pourrait dire, si la Constitution et les lois du pays sont en désaccord avec les principes les plus sains du droit des gens, on doit changer ces lois et cette Constitution.

Ces observations ne peuvent être sérieusement défendues.

Pour appliquer au cas actuel l'Article de la Constitution et ceux du Code Pénal, il faut leur faire violence, et les interpréter d'une manière que leur sens comporte à peine, et qui est énergiquement repoussée par l'esprit public en Grèce. Des Articles du Code, le premier n'a trait qu'au recrutement pour le pays même qui est puni de mort ; l'autre se rapporte seul à l'enrôlement pour l'étranger ; il est beaucoup plus légèrement puni. Tous les deux sont des dispositions d'ordre purement intérieur, traitant non d'un devoir que le Gouvernement aurait de défendre la sécurité d'autres pays, mais des droits dont il est revêtu pour sauvegarder sa propre sécurité. Cela devient de toute évidence aussi par le titre aussi conçu du chapitre auquel ces Articles appartiennent : "Des crimes de haute trahison, de trahison à la patrie, et d'autres actes attentatoires à la sécurité et à l'indépendance de l'Etat."

On ne donnera sans doute jamais au Gouvernement Grec l'avis de faire bon marché de ses lois et de sa constitution, qu'il se fait un honneur et un devoir d'appliquer religieusement. Dans cette circonstance il serait même dans l'impossibilité de céder à un pareil avis ; il se heurterait contre le sentiment de toute la nation. S'il se trouve un Ministère pour donner à la loi un sens qui lui permette de restreindre la liberté individuelle, s'il essaye de s'en servir pour couper les vivres aux Crétois et les prendre par la faim pour les forcer à la soumission, s'il veut, s'appuyant sur ce sens équivoque, empêcher le départ des volontaires, il est plus que probable qu'il soulèvera une opposition violente qui pourrait dégénérer en une anarchie dangereuse à la Grèce, à tous les pays limitrophes, et en général au repos du monde.

Enfin, il n'y a rien dans la constitution et les lois Grecques qui doive être changé comme contrevenant au principe du droit des gens ci-dessus énoncé, la liberté pour les citoyens d'aller à leurs risques et périls se battre pour qui ils veulent ; et cette liberté étant admise les autres prohibitions demandées sont sans nulle portée, car les volontaires qui voudraient partir pourraient avec la plus grande facilité échapper à toute poursuite,

en évitant de se recruter régulièrement, ce qu'ils n'ont du reste jamais fait, ou même de se réunir en armes ou désarmés jusqu'au dernier moment lorsqu'ils seraient hors de portée du Gouvernement Grec.

Il est peut-être opportun de rappeler également que des bandes armées de brigands, recrutées en Turquie, envahissent périodiquement le territoire Grec. La Grèce, qui en souffre dans ses intérêts les plus réels, n'en a jamais rendu la Turquie responsable. Elle s'en est seulement plainte, parce que la Porte a toujours négligé d'exécuter un Traité en vigueur, lequel serait la meilleure sauvegarde de la Grèce contre ces invasions. Les brigands sont cependant des ennemis communs que tout Gouvernement se doit à lui-même de réprimer et de punir.

Conséquences de l'Ultimatum.

Mais la Porte ne s'est pas bornée à envoyer à la Grèce un ultimatum si peu motivé. Elle l'a aussi accompagné et fait suivre de mesures violentes, qui ont de beaucoup aggravé les difficultés de la situation. Un de ses officiers de marine a poursuivi avec des intentions hostiles, dans l'Archipel Grec, un navire marchand sous pavillon Hellénique, a menacé de voies de fait et a tenu bloqué un des ports du pays. Les sujets Grecs ont reçu l'intimation de quitter la Turquie dans un très bref délai, au grand détriment de leurs intérêts matériels, et les ports Turcs ont été fermés aux bâtiments de Grèce, causant à son commerce des pertes incalculables. Celle-ci n'a point usé de représailles. Elle considère comme un devoir qui lui est fait par la justice et l'humanité, de limiter le plus possible les effets désastreux d'une rixe, et de ne pas les faire peser sur des innocents. Elle a déclaré que les sujets Ottomans établis sur son territoire continueraient à jouir de la protection de ses lois. Au Contre-Amiral Turc elle a, conformément à un avis de jurisconsultes, dont copie annexée *sub lit.* C, reconnu le droit de citer devant les Tribunaux compétents le Capitaine de "l'Enosis," de la conduite duquel il prétend avoir à se plaindre.

Ayant montré un tel esprit de modération, la Grèce est en droit d'exiger, avant de reprendre ses anciens rapports d'amitié avec la Turquie, que la Turquie autorise de son côté la mise en jugement du Contre-Amiral Turc pour les plaintes portées contre lui par le capitaine de "l'Enosis," qu'elle donne réparation pour le traitement qu'elle a fait subir à la Grèce, et qu'elle indemnise celle-ci de toutes les pertes très-considérables que lui ont occasionnées les mesures ordonnées par la Porte. Enfin, qu'elle offre des garanties réelles qu'elle traiterait à l'avenir les Grecs de même que les nationaux des autres Puissances Européennes.

Résumé.

Pour résumer ces considérations, nous dirons que la Grèce décline la responsabilité des causes immédiates de la présente rupture, se réservant de revenir sur les causes plus reculées, si la question en était soulevée; que des cinq points de l'ultimatum les deux premiers, dans l'ordre dans lequel ils sont énumérés dans ce mémoire, sont de nulle importance; que le troisième est entièrement et sans restriction admis par la Grèce; que les deux autres sont repoussés par les principes du droit des gens, aussi bien que par la législation du pays; que par conséquent la Grèce ne pourrait s'y soumettre sans renoncer à ses droits, et sans fouler aux pieds les libertés de ses citoyens, sans s'exposer enfin à des conséquences qui pourraient être grosses de dangers pour elle et non moins pour les autres.

L'ultimatum devrait être entièrement retiré en partie comme inopportun, en partie comme injuste, et la Turquie devrait examiner par les Tribunaux compétents la conduite du Contre-Amiral, et accorder à la Grèce des réparations et des indemnités qu'un examen équitable prouverait lui être dues, de même que des garanties de traiter réellement ses nationaux, à l'avenir, comme ceux des nations les plus favorisées, ainsi qu'elle s'y est engagée par des Traités.

Le Gouvernement Grec de son côté promettrait de la manière la plus formelle :—

1. De ne mettre aucun obstacle au départ des Crétois qui désireraient se repatrier; de ne permettre à aucune autorité et à aucun de ses sujets de s'y opposer; de punir enfin sévèrement tous ceux qui le tenteraient;

2. De ne permettre à aucun officier, sous-officier, soldat ou employé civil de l'Etat de prendre les armes pour les insurgés;

3. De ne pas permettre que des bâtiments de l'Etat, armés en guerre ou autrement, aillent porter des munitions et des secours aux Crétois.

4. D'autoriser la mise en accusation du capitaine de "l'Enosis," sur une dénonciation en règle du Contre-Amiral Turc.

Annex A.

General Milios to M. Delyanni.

(Traduction.)

M. le Ministre et cher Collègue,

Athènes, le ²¹/₃ Novembre, 1868.

A LA suite de notre conversation relative aux désertions qui ont lieu dans les rangs de l'armée pour le recrutement opéré par le Chef Petropoulaki, j'ai également l'honneur de vous communiquer par la présente, les mesures déjà prises par mon Département pour l'arrestation des déserteurs, et pour prévenir le renouvellement des désertions.

Le Commandant militaire d'Athènes ayant conçu des soupçons sur la désertion d'hommes de différents corps de la garnison de la capitale, a pris des mesures pour les prévenir, ainsi que pour l'arrestation de ceux qui quitteraient leurs rangs. En effet, le Commandant de Place du Pirée a arrêté d'abord 15 soldats, puis hier 4 autres ayant quitté leurs rangs. Quelques déserteurs ont pu s'échapper en se revêtant d'habits bourgeois.

Les soldats arrêtés ont été punis disciplinairement; ils avaient été arrêtés avant l'expiration du délai légal accordé en pareil cas par le Code Pénal; une enquête judiciaire a été ouverte contre ceux qui ont déserté à l'étranger.

Informé le $\frac{1}{2}$ ³/₃ de ce mois, par un rapport du Commandant de Place de Nauplie, et par un autre rapport de celui de Tripolitza, de la désertion de 24 soldats de la garnison dans la première ville, et de 17 dans l'autre, j'ai donné l'ordre par le télégraphe au Commandant de la Gendarmerie de la Laconie, d'après la direction prise par les déserteurs, indiquée par les rapports des autorités militaires, de les faire arrêter et de les renvoyer à leurs corps respectifs. J'ai en même temps donné l'ordre aux chefs de ces corps de faire interroger les déserteurs et de leur appliquer des peines disciplinaires.

Je ne me suis pas borné là; j'ai adressé une circulaire aux autorités militaires. Vous en trouverez, ci-joint, copie. Elle a pour but, ainsi que vous voudrez bien l'observer, d'éclairer les soldats sur les graves conséquences de la désertion et d'en prévenir le retour.

Informé enfin aujourd'hui que le détachement du bataillon qui se trouve à Gythion faisait craindre des désertions, j'ai donné l'ordre, par le télégraphe, d'y envoyer un officier avec mission spéciale de prévenir une pareille éventualité et de diriger ailleurs ce détachement.

En un mot, M. le Ministre et cher Collègue, je persisterai, en ce qui concerne les désertions, à l'application des mesures prescrites par ma circulaire. J'userai de la plus grande sévérité. Les soldats de l'armée Royale ne doivent, en aucun cas, abandonner leurs rangs. De promptes et vigoureuses mesures ont été prises contre les déserteurs, en vertu de ma circulaire.

Le Ministre,
(Signé) S. MILIOS.

Annex B.

General Milios to the Military Authorities of Greece.

(Traduction.)

Athènes, le ¹/₃⁸/₀ Novembre, 1868.

NOUS observons, avec regret, des rapports qui nous parviennent des diverses autorités militaires, que depuis quelque temps les cas de désertions se sont accrus dans les différents corps de l'armée et principalement dans les régiments de ligne.

Nos précédentes instructions qui prescrivent l'application de peines contre les déserteurs peuvent, croyons-nous, servir à les prévenir. En apprenant en effet, qu'ils sont passibles de poursuites, après une condamnation par défaut, même après leur quarante-cinquième année, les déserteurs comprendront qu'ils ne peuvent pas être déchargés des conséquences de leur désertion, par un repentir et un retour tardifs.

Nous vous invitons donc à observer, d'un côté, cette instruction en dénonçant, en temps opportun, chaque cas de désertion ressortissant de votre commandement, en rappelant, de l'autre, aux militaires placés sous vos ordres, qu'en abandonnant leurs rangs et en n'y rentrant point avant le temps déterminé, pour prévenir des poursuites, ils seront passibles des peines de la désertion.

Le Ministre,
(Signé) S. MILIOS.

Opinion of Greek Lawyers respecting the "Enosis."

SUR la question ci-après posée par le Gouvernement :—

"Le Gouvernement Hellénique est-il tenu, d'après le droit des gens, d'accepter d'une manière absolue la demande du Contre-Amiral de Turquie tendante à faire mettre en jugement le Capitaine du bateau-à-vapeur 'l'Enosis'?"

Nous opinons unanimement ce qui suit :—

Selon les lois Helléniques et le droit des gens chacun peut, soit par dénonciation directe, soit par la voie diplomatique, porter plainte contre toute personne pour un méfait quelconque, en se conformant aux prescriptions de l'Article 149 du Code d'Instruction Criminelle en vigueur.

Mais, comme les dépêches du Contre-Amiral de Turquie n'ont pas cette forme, elles ne sauraient être considérées comme une dénonciation. Nous ajoutons, d'ailleurs, que ses griefs contre le steamer "Enosis" ne sauraient donner lieu à une poursuite, attendu que selon l'aveu même du Contre-Amiral, c'est lui qui attaqua le premier "l'Enosis" dans les eaux Grecques, plutôt dans le but de s'en emparer que de le visiter; tandis que d'après le droit des gens, il n'avait dans aucun cas ce droit, en cas même qu'il se serait trouvé dans une distance de six milles de Syra. Il a été d'ailleurs constaté que l'attaque eut lieu à une distance d'un demi-mille et non à celle de six milles. L'attitude, en outre, du susdit Contre-Amiral, telle qu'elle apparaît dans tous ses actes, pourrait plutôt être considérée comme un commencement d'hostilités. En conséquence, le Gouvernement Hellénique, non seulement n'est pas tenu d'après le droit des gens de donner l'ordre au Procureur du Roi de poursuivre contre le Capitaine de "l'Enosis" par devant les Tribunaux compétents, mais au contraire il est dans son droit de demander une réparation à la Turquie par la raison que, en pleine paix et pendant que les relations entre elle et la Grèce subsistaient encore, des bâtiments de guerre Turcs se sont permis de donner la chasse, contrairement au droit des gens, à un navire sous pavillon Hellénique dans les eaux de la Grèce, et jusque dans la mer territoriale de la Grèce.

Mais outre la poursuite d'office de la part du Procureur du Roi, nos lois, Article 278 du Code d'Instruction Criminelle, ordonnent que quiconque se croit lésé par quelque Hellène, soit dans le Royaume Hellénique soit à l'étranger, peut en porter plainte par une dénonciation devant le Procureur du Roi compétent. Or, le Contre-Amiral de la Turquie pouvait conformément à notre législation déposer sa plainte en se conformant aux formalités voulues par notre législation, et, en ce cas, le Procureur du Roi compétent devait et doit, si la dénonciation est faite, la prendre en considération et y donner suite dans les limites de sa compétence et conformément aux lois.

Le Conseil,

(Signé)

B. V. NICOLOPOULOS;
DIAMANTOPOULOS.
SARIPOLOS.
PROVILEGIOS.

(Translation.)

I.—*Causes of the Rupture.*

THE Powers assembled in Conference having resolved to limit themselves to treating with the rupture only, without recurring to its original source, it is evident that the only immediate cause to which the rupture can be attributed, must be sought in the violent notes and in the ultimatum addressed finally to Greece by the Ottoman Government. On the part of the former there has been no act which could be interpreted as a provocation. Her attitude is not a new fact of a kind to justify a sudden resolution. It has, moreover, several times been the subject of frank explanations on the part of the Greek Ministry, the value of which the Turkish Government appeared to understand and to be satisfied with. In short, to recur to that remote cause would be to transgress the limits fixed by the Conference, and Greece would then have the right to demand also an investigation of the motives which dictated her conduct, and to seek to justify the liveliness of her sympathies for the Cretans.

But, it has been said, that it was just because the grievances were of long standing that the cup was full; one drop only was wanting to cause it to overflow; that drop was the insult offered to the Turkish Minister by the volunteers who, on their way to Crete, passed under his windows, in broad daylight, with flying colours, without the Greek Government daring or wishing to oppose it. This act, regrettable as it would be even in

a case where the instigators of it were only intent on defying or compromising their Government, would none the less be of that kind which, between Governments anxious for the tranquillity of the world, are settled by explanations or by reparations asked for and received in a conciliatory spirit. But this incident did not take place; M. Delyanni, the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, in one of his replies to M. Photiades Bey, expressly told him so. This refutation, which, if untrue, would have been impossible, has remained unanswered. Steps were therefore taken at Constantinople with deplorable precipitation on an unfounded report, too hastily accepted and communicated. The conflict was provoked by an ultimatum called forth by no immediate or new cause.

II.—*The Ultimatum.*

Passing to the Ultimatum itself, let us investigate its conditions, to see how much they contain that is practical and just, and how far Greece owes it to herself to reject or accede to them in the interests of peace. These conditions are five in number. We give them inversely in proportion to their importance.

1st Point.—That Greece should expressly bind herself to conform for the future to the Treaties existing between herself and Turkey, and generally to the laws of nations.

By the very generality of its terms this point has no practical bearing. Every constituted State is bound to observe the obligations to which Turkey wishes to hold Greece. The Hellenic Government, on the contrary, has often been obliged to call upon Turkey to observe existing Treaties, particularly those connected with the suppression of brigandage on the frontiers; the security and tranquillity of Greece being interested therein. Her demands remained unavailing; more than once she has had to appeal to the Protecting Powers.

2nd Point.—To punish according to the laws those who have been guilty of attacks on Ottoman soldiers and citizens, and to compensate the victims of these crimes.

As it is worded, this point can have no reference to the Greeks fighting in Crete. The most elementary principles of international law are opposed to such a supposition. It probably refers to a grievance not known till this moment, the cause of which we should not be aware of if M. Delyanni did not himself mention it to Photiades Bey in his note which has on this point remained unanswered. According to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, an Albanian, an Ottoman subject, quarrelled at Syra with another Albanian, also an Ottoman subject, and stabbed him with a poignard. The police pursued the guilty party, he succeeded in escaping and in quitting Greece. Is this incident of a kind to justify demands and a rupture?

3rd Point.—That the Cretan families be enabled to embark freely for their homes, and that the Greek Government effectually protect their repatriation.

Greece will have no objection to make on this point. The Hellenic Government has always declared that the Cretans, who had full liberty to take refuge in their territory, were received there with sympathy, and were supported by private benevolence and by great sacrifices on the part of the State, were equally free, in conformity with the laws of the country, to leave it whenever it seemed good to them. Two or three times some Cretans, displeased at seeing a certain number of their countrymen leaving, and as they considered, deserting their cause, attempted by main force to prevent them. They insulted, and even attacked them, at the same time seizing their effects. The police interfered, dispersed the rioters, restored order, and enabled those who wished to depart, to embark. The Greek Government on these occasions acted with a severity which went so far as to compromise their popularity seriously; for, from tolerably plausible proofs, it was generally believed that the Turkish Legation, by every kind of endeavour and by bribery, was prevailing upon several families to return to Crete, in order to give colour to the assertion, frequently and prematurely made, that Crete was subjugated and was glad to be so. After the Greek authorities had once or twice suppressed these disturbances, they occurred no more; forty embarkations took place without opposition before the Turkish Ultimatum made this the serious cause of a rupture. During the very day on which it was presented at Athens, 200 Cretans embarked unimpeded. Turkey hired Austrian or French vessels as transport for the Cretans; she appeared to think it necessary that they should be convoyed by men-of-war belonging to the Powers. Greece offered no objection to it; it was to her advantage to have witnesses of her conduct with regard to the departure of the Cretans, and to show that it was in no respect her fault that, out of 60,000 refugees, only 4,000 should have returned to Crete. No measure for facilitating the conveyance of the families desirous of leaving the country of their own accord will be hindered by the Greek Government.

4th Point.—That the ships “Enosis,” “Crete,” and “Panhellenion” be disarmed, or at least, that Greek ports be closed against them.

This point and the next are the only ones of any real importance, though it would be only natural to suppose that one or two small cruizers and a few hundred volunteers could not seriously impede the efforts of the Ottoman Empire to subjugate the insurgent island.

In the first place it ought to be noted that these vessels do not belong to the State, as some newspapers have asserted. They are the private property of a Navigation Company. One or other of them formerly belonged to the Royal Navy; they were several years ago sold to the Company.

Neither are these vessels pirates. That ominous name is only given to such as pillage and murder on the high seas in order to take possession of the property of others. Those men have never been considered as pirates who, with perfect disinterestedness, and in face of a thousand dangers, convey, to famished populations, voluntary subscriptions of money or food.

Nor can they with any more justice be called privateers, as has sometimes been pretended. A privateer is a ship which, furnished with letters of marque, attacks vessels bearing a hostile flag, and seizes them in order to damage the commercial interests of the nation with which its own is at war. Privateering is abolished as far as the Contracting Powers of 1856 are concerned, and Greece has adhered to the abolition by a formal Act.

The vessels which we refer to belong to individuals. Whether incited by love of gain, or by a more disinterested motive, they force the blockade, in order to convey provisions, and occasionally arms and ammunition, to the Cretans. They belong to that class which in English are termed "blockade-runners." Their mode of proceeding is familiar to Greek sailors. During the great French revolution, and under the *régime* of the Continental system Hydriot vessels laden with grain used to go, braving every peril, to provision the blockaded ports of Spain. Thus it was that Hydra grew wealthy. England did not at that period hold the Porte responsible for these acts, although the most enlightened principles of international law had not yet universally penetrated into the constitutions of all civilized countries. The principle, generally admitted now, is, that when a coast is declared to be blockaded the merchant-vessels of neutral Powers are not allowed to approach it. They may attempt it, but they do so at their own risk and peril; and the blockading Power has a right to fire on them in order to prevent it, or, if captured, to dispose of the cargoes according to its own laws. Pinheiro Ferreira, the editor and commentator of Martens, expresses himself on this subject in the following terms:—"When a belligerent Power declares any part of an enemy's coast to be in a state of blockade as regards other nations whose neutrality she intends nevertheless to recognize, the declaration is limited to warning the vessels of those nations that, if they attempt to force the blockade, it will be at their own peril; but this declaration entails neither the duty of acquiescing in it, nor consequently the right of punishing those who have taken no heed of it."

Even on the subject of the disposal of the cargoes every nation has not the same law; this has been differently regulated by different Treaties. Usually, "all articles directly appertaining to war, and of whose use there can be no doubt, such as weapons, shot, shell, powder, soldiers, horses, &c.," are considered as contraband of war; but other merchandize, particularly provisions, are free (Martens, ii, sec. 318); and Martens points out that there are in existence two Treaties permitting neutral merchant-vessels to carry even arms to the enemy. "Now," adds the same publicist, "almost all Commercial Treaties rule that, legally, only the contraband articles shall be confiscated, and the vessel shall be allowed to continue its voyage with the remainder of its cargo, and that a neutral vessel shall never be confiscated."

The Treaty between Prussia and America of 1785 goes even further, and rules (Article XIII) that "even contraband articles shall not be confiscated, but only detained." (Martens, Collection, cap. ii, page 566.)

Such are the principles of international law with regard to vessels belonging to neutral Powers, and such is their most general application in positive law. Nothing justifies a belligerent, if he fail to capture a vessel breaking his blockade, in laying the blame on the neutral State to which the vessel belongs. and to insist on her capturing it for him.

As for the nations themselves, they cannot be made responsible for the conduct of the vessels sailing under their flag, or of their subjects in general, unless, by legal enactment, they authorize the transmission of war material to one belligerent but forbid it in the case of another. Martens writes on this head in the following terms (ii, sec. 315):—"A neutral Power offends against the natural obligations of neutrality, the essential character of which is impartiality: 1stly. If she permits her subjects to

convey munitions of war to one of the belligerent Powers, but forbids it in the case of the other. . . . 3rdly. If, not content with permitting the trade to her subjects, she herself sends necessities of war to one of the belligerent Powers," &c. But the Greek Government have done nothing to which Article I could apply, and they do not, nor have they the right to place any obstacle in the way of such of their subjects, if there are any, who may desire to convey munitions of war to the Turks. They do not themselves send any to the Cretans.

It cannot be said that these principles of international law are applicable to the present belligerents, since the Cretans are the Sultan's subjects, and Crete is an integral part of Turkey. In this case the vessels in question would only be smugglers, subject to the laws against simple smuggling.

With regard to right of search, which the Turkish Vice-Admiral, Hobart Pasha, probably desired to apply in sight of the port of Syra, without alluding to the place in which he thought right to exercise it, or the manner in which he set about it, these are the words of the Portuguese publicist already quoted (Pinheiro Ferreira, note 92 to Martens, ii, page 273):—"This right on our side does not entail on the neutral party the obligation of allowing themselves to be searched. . . . The vessels summoned to strike . . . would have the right of resisting if they considered our summons illegal, and had the means of repelling force by force. It is therefore untrue that any vessel meeting that of a belligerent Power is bound to allow itself to be searched under penalty of being treated as offending against the vessel which has so summoned it."

If a neutral ship is not bound to submit to search, and has the right of resisting even by force, if she has the power to do so, there is the stronger argument against holding the Power whose flag she bears, responsible for her behaviour and resistance.

5th Point.—That the existing bands of volunteers be dispersed, and the formation of fresh ones prevented.

The first part of this point has no application. In fact, at the time when the ultimatum was presented, and since, no band of volunteers has existed in Greece.

With regard to the future, the law of nations imposes no obligation on the Greek Government, nor does it give them the right to forbid their subjects to go and fight in Crete or elsewhere, on whichever side they choose. "This principle," says Pinheiro Ferreira (Martens, ii, note 86), "would only be admitted in the codes of countries in which men are only serfs belonging to the soil. But in every other country where it is known that individual liberty is one of the subject's rights, of which no fixed law can deprive him, each man shall be able to take part with whichever belligerent nation he may think fit, without the one to which he belongs, and which remains neutral, having the right to prevent it, and consequently without her being liable to be held responsible for it by the other belligerent nation." Now in Greece men are not slaves, and this principle does not belong to her code. Greeks have, as volunteers, taken part in all recent wars; Europeans of every nation fought in the United States, in the ranks of the armies of the North or South; large numbers of Frenchmen have often fought for the Poles; during the War of Independence, Greece numbered among her supporters Frenchmen, Englishmen, Germans, companions in arms of Fabrier and of Cochrane. During the civil wars in Greece, Tafilbusi, a Turk, who now fills an important office at Constantinople, came with a numerous band, and enrolled himself in the ranks of one of the contending parties; and, in the last rising against King Otho, Turkish volunteers made common cause with the insurgents, without Greece ever dreaming of holding the Porte responsible for the behaviour of its subjects. Even in Crete, volunteers from the different parts of Europe are with their arms supporting the cause of the insurgents; whilst, on the other hand, the Englishman, Hobart Pasha, commands the Turkish fleet. England put no obstacle in his way; she had not the right to do so; but in her anxiety to preserve a strict neutrality, she refused to authorize her officers of high rank to serve with one of the belligerent fleets; her authority was limited to this. The same is the case in Greece. As with Hobart Pasha, her Government could not forbid Petropoulaki to run the risk of the war in Crete; the constitution and the laws of the country do not authorize their doing so; but they could desire their officers and soldiers not to take part in it, and this they did. Some soldiers having deserted their corps in order to join Petropoulaki, the Minister for War, before the presentation of the ultimatum, published strict orders, and caused several of them to be arrested and punished as deserters. The inclosures A and B bear testimony to this fact. The Government thereby fulfilled the duties imposed on them by international obligations, at the same time taking advantage of the rights granted them by the laws of their country.

But perhaps, even if it be admitted that nothing can authorize the Greek Government to interfere with the freedom of individual volunteers going to Crete at their own

risk and peril, it will be asserted that they could, and ought to, oppose the departure of armed bands. They might, in order to do so, take advantage of Article 10 of the Constitution, which, whilst permitting unarmed meetings, implicitly forbids armed assemblies; also Article 127 of the Penal Code, which punishes with death those who, without authority from the Government, recruit, or allow themselves to be enrolled, or undertake any command by land or by sea; likewise Article 136, which punishes with two years' imprisonment the unauthorized enrolment of recruits for a foreign Power. In short, it might be said that if the Constitution and laws of the land are not in accordance with the most wholesome principles of international law, those laws and that Constitution ought to be revised.

Such observations cannot be seriously defended.

In order to apply the Article of the Constitution and those of the Penal Code to the case in point, they must be distorted and interpreted in a way which their sense will scarcely bear, and which is energetically rejected by public opinion in Greece. Of the Articles of the Code, the first only refers to recruitment at home, which is punishable with death; the other refers only to enrolment in foreign parts, and inflicts much more lenient punishment. Both measures apply solely to home matters, referring, not to any obligation on the part of the Government to provide for the security of other countries, but to the right which it has assumed of guarding its own interests. This is quite evident from the title of the Chapter of which these Articles form part:—"Crimes of High Treason, Treason to the Country, and other Acts endangering the Security and Independence of the State."

Doubtless no one will ever recommend the Greek Government to make light of their laws and Constitution, which they make it a point of honour and duty to execute scrupulously. In this case they would be quite unable to yield to such advice: they would run counter to the feeling of the whole nation. If any Ministry can be found to give to the law a construction which would allow it to place restraint on the liberty of the subject; if it attempts to make use of it in order to cut off the provisions of the Cretans and to force them to submission by famine; if, relying on this equivocal construction, it should attempt to prevent the departure of the volunteers,—it is more than probable that it will raise a violent opposition which might degenerate into anarchy dangerous to Greece and to the neighbouring countries, and in general to the tranquillity of the world.

In short, there is nothing in the Greek Constitution and laws which ought to be revised as contrary to the above-cited principle of international law, viz., the right of citizens to fight, at their own risk and peril, for whomsoever they will; and this right once admitted, the other prohibitions demanded have no application, for the volunteers who were desirous of embarking could with the greatest ease evade pursuit by refraining from recruiting in the regular way, which, by the way, they never did, or even from assembling with or without arms till the last moment when they would be beyond the control of the Greek Government.

It is, perhaps, opportune also to call to mind the fact that armed bands of brigands, recruited in Turkey, periodically invade Greek territory. Greece, whose greatest interests suffer therefrom, has never held Turkey responsible for it. She only complained of it because the Porte continually neglected to carry out the conditions of an existing Treaty which would be Greece's best safeguard against these invasions. Brigands are nevertheless common enemies which every Government owes it to itself to suppress and to punish.

Consequences of the Ultimatum.

But the Porte did not confine itself to addressing to Greece an ultimatum so little called for. It also accompanied and followed it with violent measures, which greatly aggravated the difficulties of the situation. One of its naval officers pursued, with hostile intentions and in the Greek Archipelago, a merchantman sailing under the Greek flag, threatened violence, and kept one of the ports of the country in a state of blockade. Greek subjects received orders to quit Turkey on very short notice, orders very detrimental to their material interests; and Turkish ports were closed to Greek vessels, causing incalculable losses to her commerce. Greece made no reprisals. She considers it a duty imposed on her by justice and humanity, to limit within the narrowest bounds the disastrous consequences of a contest, and to prevent them from weighing on innocent people. She declared that Ottoman subjects residing in her territory should continue to enjoy the protection of her laws. In accordance with the opinion of jurists, of which Annex C is a copy, she recognized the right of the Turkish Vice-Admiral to summon the captain of the "Enosis" before a competent tribunal, to answer for the conduct of which the former pretends to complain.

Having shown such a spirit of moderation, Greece, before resuming her former friendly relations with Turkey, has the right to desire the latter, on her part, to cause the Turkish Vice-Admiral to be put upon his trial for the charges brought against him by the commander of the "Enosis," to make reparation for the treatment she has forced Greece to undergo, and to indemnify her for all the very considerable losses which the measures ordered by the Porte have entailed upon her, and, lastly, to offer real guarantees that, for the future, she will treat the Greeks on the same footing as the subjects of other European Powers.

Résumé.

To sum up these observations, we must declare that Greece declines to become responsible for the immediate causes of the present rupture, reserving to herself the right of reverting to the more remote causes thereof, if the question of them be raised :—That of the five points of the ultimatum the first two, taking them in the order in which they are enumerated in this Memorandum, are of no importance ; that the third is entirely and unreservedly admitted by Greece : that the two others are refuted by the principles of international law, as well as by the legislation of the country ; and that, consequently, Greece could not submit to them without renouncing her rights, and without treading under foot the liberty of her citizens : in a word, without laying herself open to results which might be pregnant with dangers for her no less than for others.

The ultimatum ought to be entirely withdrawn, partly as being inopportune, partly as being unjust, and Turkey ought to investigate, by the proper Tribunals, the conduct of her Vice-Admiral, and to give Greece the compensation and indemnity which an equitable examination would prove to be due to her, as well as guarantees to treat her subjects for the future on the same footing as those of the most-favoured nations, as she is bound by Treaty to do.

The Greek Government, on their part, would formally promise :—

1. In no way to hinder the departure of Cretans desirous of returning home ; not to permit any authorities or subjects to oppose it ; and to punish severely all those who should attempt to do so.

2. Not to allow any officer, subordinate officer, private soldier, or civil employé of the State, to take arms on the side of the insurgents.

3. Not to permit Government vessels, armed or otherwise, to convey munitions of war or assistance to the Cretans.

4. To authorize the prosecution of the captain of the "Enosis" on an accusation in due form being laid by the Turkish Vice-Admiral.

Annex A.

General Milios to M. Delyanni.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre and dear Colleague,

*Athens, November 21,
December 3, 1868.*

WITH reference to our conversation relative to the desertions which have taken place in the ranks of the army for the recruitment carried on by the Chief Petropoulaki, I have the honour to communicate to you hereby the measures already taken by my Department to arrest the deserters, and to prevent the recurrence of desertions.

The Military Commandant at Athens, having conceived suspicions of the desertion of men from the different corps forming the garrison of the capital, took measures to hinder them, and to arrest those who should quit their ranks. In fact, the Commandant of the Piræus arrested, first, fifteen soldiers, and yesterday four more, for having left their ranks. A few deserters may have escaped by dressing themselves as civilians.

The soldiers who were arrested were punished according to discipline ; they had been captured before the expiration of the legal term granted in such cases by the Penal Code. A judicial inquiry has been opened in the cases of those who left the country.

Having received information on the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{5}$ th instant, through a report from the Commandant at Nauplia, and through one from the Commandant at Tripolitza, of the desertion of twenty-four soldiers of the garrison in the former town, and of seventeen in the latter, I gave orders by telegraph to the head of the police of Laconia to cause the deserters to be arrested and sent back to their respective regiments, informing him of the road taken by them as reported by the military authorities. At the same time I gave orders to the Chiefs of those regiments to have the deserters examined, and to punish them according to the rules of discipline.

I did not stop there; I addressed a circular to the military authorities; a copy thereof is inclosed. Its object, as you will observe, is to explain to the soldiers the serious consequences of desertion, and to prevent the recurrence of it.

Lastly, having to-day been informed that fears were entertained of desertion in the detachment of the battalion posted at Gythion, I gave orders by telegraph that an officer should proceed thither on a special mission to prevent any such occurrence, and to remove the detachment elsewhere.

In a word, M. le Ministre and dear colleague, in regard to desertion I shall persist in the execution of the measures prescribed by my circular. I shall exercise the utmost severity. The soldiers of the Royal army are under no circumstances to leave their ranks. Prompt and energetic measures have been taken against the deserters in consequence of my circular.

(Signed) S. MILIOS, *Minister.*

Annex B.

General Milios to the Military Authorities of Greece.

(Translation.)

Athens, November $\frac{18}{30}$, 1868.

WE observe, with regret, from reports which have reached us from various military authorities, that for some time cases of desertion have increased in number in the different *corps d'armée*, and principally in the regiments of the line.

We think that our previous instructions, which order the punishment of deserters, may serve to warn them. In fact, when they learn that they are liable to prosecution, after judgment by default, even after they have reached their forty-fifth year, deserters will see that they cannot, by a tardy repentance and return, escape the consequences of their desertion.

We invite you, therefore, to act on this instruction, first, by denouncing, in good time, every case of desertion occurring under your command; and, secondly, by reminding the soldiers serving under your orders that by leaving their ranks, and not returning to them before the appointed time, so as to prevent prosecution, they will be subject to the penalties of desertion.

(Signed) S. MILIOS, *Minister.*

Annex C.

Opinion of Greek Lawyers respecting the "Enosis."

ON the following question put by the Government:—

"Is the Hellenic Government, according to the law of nations, bound to accept absolutely the demand of the Turkish Vice-Admiral, that the captain of the steam-vessel 'Enosis' be put upon his trial?"

We are unanimously of opinion that:—

According to Hellenic laws and the law of nations, every one, either by direct accusation or by a diplomatic channel, can bring an action against any person for any misdeed whatever, in conformity with Article 149 of the existing Criminal Code of Instruction.

But, as the despatches of the Turkish Vice-Admiral are not in this form, they cannot be considered as an accusation. Moreover, we may add that his complaints against the steamer "Enosis" cannot result in a prosecution, since, even as avowed by the Vice-Admiral, it was he who first attacked the "Enosis" in Greek waters, rather with the object of capturing than of searching her; whereas, by the law of nations, he had, in no case, the right to do so, even if he had been at a distance of six miles from Syra. Moreover, it has been certified that the attack took place at a distance of half-a-mile, and not of six miles. Besides, the attitude of the said Vice-Admiral, as illustrated by all his actions, might rather be looked upon as a commencement of hostilities. Consequently, the Hellenic Government is not only not bound by the law of nations to order the Procureur du Roi to prosecute the captain of the "Enosis" before the competent tribunals, but, on the contrary, they have the right to demand reparation from Turkey because that, in time of peace and whilst relations still existed between her and Greece, Turkish men-of-war dared, contrary to international law, to give

chase to a vessel bearing the Hellenic flag in Greek waters, and into the very territorial sea of Greece.

But, putting out of the question a formal prosecution by the Procureur du Roi, our laws (Article 278 of the Criminal Code of Instruction) order that whoever considers himself wronged by any Greek subject, either in Greece or abroad, can complain of it by an accusation brought before the competent Procureur du Roi. Thus, the Turkish Admiral could, according to our legislation, make his charge by conforming to the formalities required by our Code; and, in that case, the Procureur du Roi, if the charge be made, should and must take it into consideration, and act upon it within the limits of his authority, and in accordance with the laws.

The Counsel,
(Signed) B. V. NICOLOPOULOS.
DIAMANTOPOULOS.
SARIPOLOS.
PROVILEGIOS.

No. 150.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 2, 1869.

IN continuation of my Reports dated the 27th and 28th ultimo, I have the honour to state that the "Kossova," Turkish line of battleship, has just returned to Suda Bay, having conveyed to Syra on the night of the 30th ultimo, the elder Petropoulakis and other Hellenic volunteers, to the number of 864. These have all been treated with leniency and with consideration by the Turkish authorities ever since their surrender at Askyfo; the elder Petropoulakis being even allowed to carry his sword. The other volunteers have necessarily been all disarmed.

The Governor-General intended at first to retain Petropoulakis and about twenty other volunteers, as hostages, until his son Leonidas Petropoulakis, Mitza, Khionia, and other volunteers still on the island, being upwards of 100, should make their submission. On further consideration, however, his Excellency generously allowed them all to depart.

I may also remark that after the defeat of the volunteers at Kissos in Ayios Vassilios on the 24th ultimo, when, as has since transpired, their killed and wounded amounted to nearly 300, with but trifling casualties on the Turkish side, the elder Petropoulakis succeeded in rallying his followers at Kerami. Profiting by a thick fog, the shattered volunteer band made a forced march during the whole of that night through a cordon of Turkish pickets as far as Kallikrati, a distance of over twenty miles. On the latter plain they were further repulsed the following morning by Omer Naili Pasha's column into Askyfo, with an additional loss of fifteen killed. On being summoned to surrender unconditionally by the Turkish commander at Askyfo, Petropoulakis at first insisted on negotiating for a formal capitulation on the plea of the French Consul's mediation, which having been offered too late could not, therefore, be entertained. Besides, Petropoulakis must have anticipated his inevitable fate as he was being driven towards Sphakia; such having been the course planned by the Turkish Generals. The total number of troops forming the various columns engaged in this last operation amounted to some 10,000.

There has been a raid made this week by Captain Goghonis in Apokorona, not far from Tzizifeh; and another on the submitted village of Therisso by Captain Hadgi Mikhali. Three Greeks were killed in the latter encounter. Hadgi Mikhali had also a narrow escape this morning near Lakos; and a bag containing his letters and official seal, &c., have been seized by the troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 151.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 13, 1869.

AS I am aware that Her Majesty's Government are earnestly endeavouring to persuade both the Turkish and Hellenic Governments to desist from all acts of aggression whilst the Conference is sitting, I have desired Her Majesty's Consul at Syra to omit no

opportunity of urging Hobart Pasha to content himself with an assurance on the part of the Greek authorities that the "Enosis" will not be allowed to quit the port of Syra until the close of the judicial proceedings now pending against that vessel.

I requested Mr. Lloyd to point out to Hobart Pasha the inexpediency of injuring a good cause by enabling the Greek Government to accuse the Porte of having recourse to measures of coercion at the very time it had consented to submit its differences with Greece to the mediation of the Great Powers; but your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed extracts from Mr. Lloyd's recent correspondence, that the Nomarch of Syra continues to evade making any such declaration as that required by Hobart Pasha, although it had already been given by M. Delyanni in a private letter to the French Minister.

Both Baron Baude and I have repeatedly urged M. Delyanni to carry out his promise by authorizing the Nomarch of Syra to acquiesce in Hobart Pasha's demand, and he has invariably expressed astonishment that the Nomarch should hesitate to do so. No later than the day before yesterday he held this language both to my French colleague and myself, and he even assured Baron Baude that the Nomarch of Syra should be instructed immediately in this sense; but I am quite prepared to hear a few days hence, that the Nomarch still professes to be awaiting instructions from Athens to take officially an engagement which has already been taken informally by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is not, under these circumstances, surprising that Hobart Pasha should object to lose sight of the "Enosis;" and if the Conference is asked by the Greek Representative to require the immediate departure of Hobart Pasha from Greek waters, it is but fair that it should also be told why Hobart Pasha has hitherto persisted in occupying his present menacing position.

Inclosure 1 in No. 151.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Syra, January 9, 1869.

HEREWITH I beg to forward translation of the reply of the Nomarch to the Consular note to him, forwarded in copy in my letter of the 5th. of January, from which you will perceive that the Nomarch declines to reply to our questions relative to the "Enosis." I am told that all the lawyers at Syra were employed several hours in framing the reply, from which even the name of the vessel "Enosis" is carefully excluded, so anxious are they not to give Admiral Hobart any latitude for doing away with what the Greeks call occasions of provocation. All the witnesses for the prosecution named by Admiral Hobart have been examined; and it is said the list of those for the defence will soon be got through, and a decision come to that there is no case for trial. M. Hahn, the Austrian Consul-General, who is learned in Greek law, says that Hobart Pasha, not having constituted himself "partie civile" in the matter, the decision will not necessarily be communicated at all to him; and that the moment the decision is made the "Enosis" will be free from arrest. I expect, however, that it may be communicated to him, if only for the purpose of depriving him of the pretext of remaining here for the purpose of the prosecution, unless, indeed, wishing to leave him in ignorance, the Greeks think he may thus be induced to commit an act of violence, and for that purpose, without giving him notice of the result of the examination, "Enosis" may be sent on a voyage to Piræus for instance, as the "Crete" was, as if nothing at all had happened to liberate her from arrest. I do not know what Admiral Hobart may do; he and his Turkish officers have had their patience severely tried; but I shall continue to say and do all I can to dissuade him from any act of violence, here, in Syra harbour, at all all events. It has been blowing hard for the last three or four days, and I only saw Admiral Hobart yesterday for a few minutes when I gave him your last message. Just the weather now; there is no means for "Enosis" to run out, and I believe she is all ready, if only for the purpose of bravado. Should, however, the Greeks do so without giving Admiral Hobart notice of the result of no case for trial, it will be heartlessly and needlessly exposing the crew of "Enosis" to certain death.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

P.S.—3 P.M.—It is blowing so hard from north-east that the Turkish frigate outside the harbour has backed into it; and the iron-clad flag-ship, notwithstanding her two

anchors down, seems to be driving unless she is slacking off her chain. "Crete" is supposed to be at Poros getting cleaned, as "Panhellenion" is doing here.

It was Tzaroloki, the Secretary of the General Assembly, who was killed at Asygonia; and Hadji Michali barely escaped elsewhere with the clothes he had on.

ST. V. L.

Inclosure 2 in No. 151.

The Nomarch of Syra to the Foreign Consuls.

(Translation.)

Syra, December 25, 1868, o.s.

I HAVE received the note which you did me the honour to address to me yesterday and I much regret not being able to answer categorically to the questions which you put to me in it, as the law does not allow to me any interference. In the judicial acts I cannot officially know what you desire to learn from me.

What I know on the subject, and is allowed to me officially to say, is already known to all; and certainly you, Messrs. Consuls, are not ignorant of it, as both verbally and in writing I have explained to you, and because it is for a matter which has been done, and which every one sees.

Receive, &c.

The Nomarch,

(Signed)

G. P. DRACOPOULO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 151.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, January 11, 1869.

I HAD previously tried to induce Admiral Hobart not to wait here the result of his legal proceedings against the "Enosis," and again went to see him on the subject yesterday, as the examination of all his witnesses had terminated on Thursday last, I believe; but it would seem that his instructions enjoin him not to lose sight of the "Enosis," "Crete," and "Panhellenion." He, however, begged me to tell the Nomarch that he, Admiral Hobart was still waiting here for the result of the examinations, and that should the "Enosis" attempt to move before he was made acquainted with that result, he would assuredly sink her there and then. I told the Nomarch what Admiral Hobart had commissioned me to say: he replied that he was fully aware of Admiral Hobart's intention: later, however, he asked me if Admiral Hobart was only waiting for the purpose of learning the result of the investigations. I replied I did not know, nor what the Admiral would do afterwards.

This forenoon I received your letter of the 9th, and I again went to see Admiral Hobart. I informed him of the question of the Nomarch, and again urged all I could say to induce him to retire from Syra; and he begged me to see the Nomarch, and tell him that his (Admiral Hobart's) sole object in staying here now is to learn the result of the investigations; and further that if the Nomarch will give him a certificate in writing that the "Enosis" will not leave the port of Syra till the end of the investigation, he, Admiral Hobart, will not even wait for the result, but at once go away, and return in a day or two to learn the result, but not wait here at all.

I have just seen the Nomarch, who said that he could make no reply without referring to Athens, and which he would do this day.

No. 152.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 8, 1869.

I COMMUNICATED to the Grand Vizier the expression of the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Porte would not press for the postponement of the meeting of the Conference, and that they would abstain from all acts of hostility. His Highness, at the invitation of the French Ambassador, had already consented to the immediate assembling of the Conference, the delay having been desired to give time for the arrival of the instructions forwarded to the Ambassador at Paris the day before; and

he authorized me to give your Lordship the most positive assurances that the Porte has no intention whatever of commencing hostilities; but, if Greek bands cross the frontier into Turkey, they will not only be repulsed, but, as a matter of legitimate defence, will be pursued into the Hellenic territory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 153.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 11, 1868.

WHEN I saw Aali Pasha this morning I had not yet received your Lordship's telegraphic instructions, which have just reached me, directing me to support the Marquis de Lavalette's telegram to M. Bourée, expressing the unanimous desire of the Conference that the Porte would suspend, till its close, the execution of the measures threatened in the ultimatum to Greece.

I nevertheless told his Highness that I was satisfied M. de Lavalette correctly represented the wishes of Her Majesty's Government; and I begged him to consider the communication as coming equally from your Lordship.

I shall now inform his Highness that I have since been instructed warmly to support it.

The Grand Vizier said, he was at some loss to gather exactly the nature of the invitation thus addressed to him.

The different Governments were aware that the expulsion of the Greek subjects had already been entirely suspended, with the exception of the cases of a few turbulent individuals. The Turkish subjects, improperly furnished with Greek passports, were being dealt with with the greatest moderation, and no particular time was fixed within which they must reassume their original nationality.

His Highness said, he was ready to engage that there should now be even less precipitancy than before in carrying out this measure, which was one that the Porte meant to adhere to, independently of the questions at present under the consideration of the Conference.

I remarked, that the abuse that had taken place with regard to Greek passports was one which the Porte would be quite right to remedy, but which need not be so summarily dealt with.

The Grand Vizier repeated, that the measure should not be abruptly carried out, but that it would be necessary to adhere to its principle.

He then asked, whether he were to understand that the Porte was invited to suspend the prohibition against Greek vessels from entering the Turkish waters.

If this was meant, he must answer without equivocation that he could not possibly consent to it.

The Porte did not know what the issue of the Conference might be, and, without having obtained the smallest satisfaction from Greece, they could not temporarily suspend a prohibition which they might have to reimpose at the end of eight or ten days.

The Turkish Government would do all that depended upon them to avoid commencing or provoking hostilities, and orders in this sense were sent to their authorities; but they will not submit to be attacked by the Greeks without retaliation, and the Greek Government will be held responsible for anything that may occur, if armed bands should penetrate into the Turkish provinces.

As long as the Greeks respect the Turkish territory, that of Greece shall be equally respected, but more than this he will not promise.

I said that there was one evidence of moderation which it was now in the power of the Porte to offer without injury to themselves. The presence of Admiral Hobart at Syra was a source of irritation to Greece, and might lead to fresh difficulties; and as the Greek authorities seemed to have consented that the case of the "Enosis" should be regularly investigated, the object of his remaining there had ceased to exist.

I hoped, therefore, his Highness would consent to instruct the Admiral now to abandon the attitude he had assumed in that port.

Aali Pasha did not take any engagement to act as I suggested, but he showed himself favourably disposed, and promised to consult his colleagues.

A few hours later I learnt that, on being subsequently appealed to by the Russian

Ambassador in the same sense, he had replied that he was willing to recall Admiral Hobart from Syra if the Greek Government gave an assurance that the "Enosis" should not be allowed to escape till the investigation of the charge against her had been completed, or till the Powers assembled in Conference had come to some decision with regard to her.

General Ignatieff informs me that he at once telegraphed to Athens this decision of the Porte, which appears to meet the requirements of the case.

In speaking on this subject to the Grand Vizier, I reminded him how necessary it was to keep the complaints made against the Greek Government in respect of the "Enosis" distinct from the charge against that vessel of having been a regular blockade-runner. If he required the Greek Government to prevent private vessels from trying, at their own risk and peril, to evade the Turkish cruisers, he would be asking more than could be demanded of a free Government, and I hoped the Porte would therefore be careful not to go beyond the more legitimate grounds of complaint which they might have with regard to the proceedings of these vessels, or to the encouragement afforded to them by the Greek Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 154.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, January 12, 1869.

THE feeling produced upon the Porte by the request of the Conference for the suspension of the measures adopted in conformity with the declaration contained in the ultimatum is evidently of an uncomfortable description.

The Conference itself, as your Lordship is aware, has from the first been viewed with misgiving and distrust, and is still regarded as a device proceeding from a hostile source, to prevent the Porte from obtaining through her own unaided means, and in the manner that would have been adopted by any one of the Powers of which the Conference is composed, the satisfaction to which she conceives herself entitled.

The appeal made to her yesterday is looked upon as justifying the apprehension lest the Porte should be obliged to choose between a line of conduct which she regards as injurious, or one which, at the outset, might place her in opposition to the wishes of the Powers.

Aali Pasha, on reading the appeal made to the Porte "not to render more difficult the task the Powers had accepted," exclaimed, "Accepted! why do they not say, 'have taken upon themselves?' Certainly the Porte never asked them to accept it." And I have heard a similar remark made by many besides his Highness.

In fact, by the Turks the Conference is regarded as having been convoked by the European Governments solely and entirely for their own interests and for their own convenience.

They say that, even if they obtain through it complete satisfaction to all their demands, they will be in a less advantageous position than if they had shown that they had the means of obtaining it for themselves.

They treat as chimerical the danger which some European Governments profess to feel of a movement in the Christian provinces of the Empire, and in the vexation, which they feel at being impeded in their perfect independence of action, they are disposed to underrate the evils that must result from an entire rupture with Greece, and the dangers to which the Empire must be exposed from the complications which might spring out of it.

No. 155.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 12, 1869.

I AM assured upon all sides that the Greeks resident here are perfectly contented to remain under the protection of the Turkish law.

They seem under no apprehension of being annoyed, and the respectable portion are far from displeased at the departure of a certain number of turbulent and ill-conducted individuals.

The greater part admit frankly enough that their Government had given sufficient provocation to the Porte to account for the measures that had been adopted ; but some of them endeavour to find excuses for it, by alleging the instigation of false friends, who encouraged them to persist in the persuasion that they could do so with impunity.

Seeing themselves likely to be abandoned to the natural consequences of their proceedings, they now exhibit a good deal of bitterness against those whom they accuse of misleading them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 156.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 13, 1869.

A BLUE Book has been issued at Athens containing despatches from M. T. Delyanni, the late Greek Minister here ; and, although it will not be possible for me to forward translations of these documents by the present messenger, as your Lordship may perhaps have received them from Athens or from some other quarter, I feel called upon at once to contest the accuracy of much of the reports given by M. Delyanni of the conversations in which I am represented to have taken a part.

M. Bourée also informs me that, as far as he is concerned, they are likewise, in great part, imaginary.

The language which M. Delyanni asserts the Russian Ambassador to have held to M. Bourée and myself differs so greatly from that which was actually used, that I must confine myself to stating, without attempting to explain, the fact.

To us he freely admitted that the Porte had right upon its side, and that its demands were warranted, although he greatly blamed the precipitancy of the measures by which it was proposed to enforce them ; and he never argued, as asserted by M. Delyanni, that they were such as the Greek Government could not accept.

In my previous reports to Her Majesty's Government, I have already observed that neither General Ignatieff nor M. Delyanni could be induced to point out one of the demands of the Porte which might be regarded as inadmissible, and that they both persistently confined themselves to objecting to the "form" in which they had been made, without attacking their substance.

When I am enabled to transmit copies of these papers, your Lordship will be struck by the state of complete delusion in which M. Delyanni, inspired, as he intimates, by the Russian Ambassador, was himself living, and in which he confirmed his Government.

It will be within your Lordship's recollection that when the aggressive policy of the Greek Government was daily becoming more apparent, I informed Her Majesty's Government that I was convinced that the patience of the Porte was exhausted and that a rupture would be the inevitable consequence.

I expressed this opinion freely, both to M. Delyanni and to those whom I had reason to believe to be sent by him to learn my views, in the hope that he might exert himself, while it was yet time, in persuading his Government to give way before they forced matters to the extremities which I saw to be approaching.

I thought that in so speaking I was acting a friendly part towards Greece as well as towards Turkey, and it would have been better for both if M. Delyanni had believed me rather than those in whom he had pinned his faith.

But on the 27th of November he wrote to his Government, "Quoi qu'il en soit, M. le Ministre, je pense, quant à moi, je suis même convaincu que la Porte Ottomane ne prendra pas, sans l'assentiment des Puissances Occidentales, une mesure aussi importante, qui pourrait avoir les plus graves conséquences, et que les Représentants de ces Puissances n'oseront jamais assumer la grande responsabilité d'un pareil conseil avant d'avoir préalablement reçu de leurs Gouvernements respectifs des instructions formelles et précises, ce qui n'a pas pu avoir lieu jusqu'à présent."

On the 1st of December, M. Delyanni wrote : "Dimanche dernier le Général Ignatieff m'a assuré que d'après sa conviction il n'y avait pas lieu de craindre la rupture des relations officielles entre la Grèce et la Turquie."

The effect of this assurance would only be to encourage the Greek Government in denying the satisfaction demanded by the Porte, and a very few days sufficed to show how thoroughly the Russian Ambassador and the Greek Minister had deceived themselves, and probably their Governments as to the real state of affairs.

The correspondence is not wanting in insinuations that the measures taken by the Porte had been instigated by the Ambassadors of the Western Powers.

As far as I am myself concerned, I feel satisfied that I need not pause to notice the accusation; and with respect to my colleagues, I will only again repeat my thorough conviction that it is equally groundless.

We have each been accused in turn, although the blame is now principally thrown upon Baron Prokesch; but all who have watched the events as they occurred must be aware that no prompter was required to urge the Porte to action, and that, least of all, are those who are responsible for the crisis to be found in the Embassies of the Western Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 157.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 22.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 14, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th December last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a note which has been addressed to me by M. Delyanni denying the right of the Ionian Bank to protest against the intended issue of 15,000,000 drachmas in inconvertible Treasury notes.

I likewise inclose a copy of letter and of its inclosures from the General Manager of the Ionian Bank, describing the circumstances under which he has been compelled to join the National Bank in promising to advance a sum of 21,000,000 drachmas to the Hellenic Government, in order to avert the inevitable ruin which would have been entailed on both establishments if the Government had carried into execution the Ordinance of the 4th instant.

Under the pressure thus exercised a loan of 21,000,000 drachmas has been literally extorted from the two banks—the share of the National Bank being 10,000,000 in paper and 4,000,000 in cash, whilst that of the Ionian Bank is 5,000,000 in paper and 4,000,000 in cash.

Inclosure 1 in No. 157.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Erskine.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 28 Décembre, 1868
9 Janvier, 1869.

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous m'avez adressée le 25 Décembre, ainsi que la protestation y annexée, en copie, de M. C. L. W. Merlin, agissant au nom de la Banque Ionienne, contre le projet qu'aurait le Gouvernement du Roi d'émettre du papier-monnaie ayant cours forcé, ou de retirer le numéraire de la Banque Nationale de Grèce, en rendant obligatoire la circulation de ses billets.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire observer, en réponse, M. le Ministre, que dans l'opinion du Gouvernement du Roi, opinion corroborée par l'avis des jurisconsultes qu'il a consultés, cette protestation ne reposant sur aucune violation des Traités, ou des principes du droit des gens, ou de la législation du pays, ne saurait être justifiée ni avoir aucun effet.

En ce qui concerne le premier point, il est évident que la Banque Ionienne a pour but d'empêcher le Gouvernement Royal d'exercer un droit inhérent aux attributs de souveraineté, et que tous les Etats indépendants, dans ces circonstances analogues aux nôtres, ont exercé sans souffrir le contrôle d'aucun autre Gouvernement, ni d'aucune société indigène ou étrangère. La prétention de la Banque Ionienne est d'autant plus singulière à ce sujet que l'exercice d'un semblable droit ne porte aucune atteinte aux droits et privilèges acquis par cette Banque, ainsi que cela ressort de la loi du ci-devant Etat Ionien sur l'établissement de Banques.

En ce qui concerne le second point, si le Gouvernement du Roi se voyait en effet obligé de se mettre en possession du numéraire de la Banque Nationale, en décidant que les billets de la Banque auraient cours forcé, il ne ferait que prendre une mesure que d'autres Etats, dans des circonstances plus ou moins exceptionnelles, tels que la Grande Bretagne pendant ses longues guerres avec la France, l'Autriche, et l'Italie, de nos jours n'ont pas hésité à prendre. Notre droit donc de prendre cette mesure est incontestable, et la Banque Nationale de Grèce elle-même ne saurait y opposer aucune objection valable. Il s'ensuit que des tiers, comme la Banque Ionienne, seraient d'autant moins en droit d'en

faire le sujet de plaintes ou de protestations que d'après la Loi du $\frac{10}{22}$ Décembre, le Gouvernement du Roi peut imposer un emprunt forcé.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 157.

Mr. Merlin to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Ionian Bank, Athens, January 12, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Royal Decree respecting a loan of 21,000,000 drachmas (756,000*l.* sterling) made by the National and Ionian Banks to the Hellenic Government, on the condition that it should withdraw the Royal Ordinance of ^{December 23, 1865} _{January 3, 1869}, authorising the State to issue 15,000,000 of inconvertible paper money.

The only option I had in this matter, as General Manager of the Ionian Bank, was to accede to this arrangement, in concert with the National Bank of Greece, or see the Ionian Bank irretrievably ruined in the course of a few days.

Had the paper money of the Government been ready and appeared at the same time as the Royal Decree authorizing its issue, the Banks could not have met their engagements in it, and their ruin would have been deferred; but the mere announcement that the Executive was going to issue paper money, unaccompanied by the appearance of the paper itself, naturally caused a run upon the banks which no similar establishment in any part of the world could withstand; not even the Banks of England and France.

I have not had time to communicate with the Directors of the Ionian Bank in London, and am consequently ignorant if they will accept my arrangement with the Hellenic Government or not. It therefore rests with them either to hold the Government of His Hellenic Majesty responsible for this act of the Executive or not, as they may consider most advisable for the interests of the Ionian Bank; otherwise, I do not see the value of the VIIth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and the Hellenic Government, ceding the Ionian Islands to Greece.

It is earnestly to be desired that the three Protecting Powers, who are directly interested in the financial prosperity of Greece, should insist that the Hellenic Government shall keep faith with the Banks, and that no further accommodation shall be extorted from them on any protest whatever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. L. W. MERLIN, *General Manager.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 157.

Royal Decree respecting a Loan of 21,000,000 drachmas.

GEORGE I, Roi des Hellènes—

Vu l'Article 2 de la Loi du 10 Décembre de cette année, sub No. 298, et le contrat sous la date d'aujourd'hui passé entre notre Ministre des Finances, d'un côté, et MM. George Stavros, en qualité de Gouverneur de la Banque Nationale de Grèce, et C. L. W. Merlin, en qualité d'Inspecteur et Gouverneur-Général des établissements de la Banque Ionienne en Grèce, de l'autre côté, notre Conseil des Ministres entendu, nous avons décidé et ordonnons :—

Article 1. Nous révoquons notre Ordonnance du 23 Décembre de cette année concernant l'émission de papier monnaie.

Art. 2. La Banque Nationale prête au Gouvernement 14,000,000 drachmes, dont 4,000,000 drachmes en espèces sonnantes, d'après le Tarif en vigueur, et 10,000,000 drachmes en ses billets de banque. La Banque Ionienne, de son côté, prête au Gouvernement 7,000,000 drachmes, dont 2,000,000 drachmes en espèces sonnantes, également d'après le Tarif, et 5,000,000 drachmes en ses billets de banque.

Art. 3. Le Gouvernement payera aux deux Banques, contre la somme empruntée en métallique, un intérêt annuel de 6 pour cent, qui sera versé chaque semestre en espèces sonnantes, et contre la somme empruntée en billets de banque une commission annuelle de $1\frac{1}{2}$ pour cent uniquement, qui sera remise chaque semestre en billets de banque.

Art. 4. A partir de la présente Ordonnance la conversion des billets des dites Banques en espèces est suspendue; ces billets seront donnés et reçus dans tout l'Etat obligatoire-

ment comme monnaie légale, à leur valeur nominale, dans tous les paiements et toutes les perceptions du Trésor public sans exception, ainsi qu'entre particuliers, banques, sociétés, et corporations de toute nature, à quelque titre que ce soit, nonobstant toute stipulation contraire préexistante.

Art. 5. Sont exceptés des dispositions de l'Article précédent les paiements du prix de l'émeri public et de l'impôt sur les scories et sur le plomb de Laurium, qui seront effectués en espèces sonnantes, d'après le Tarif R en vigueur.

Art. 6. La valeur nominale des billets de la Banque Ionienne, énoncée en piastres d'Espagne, correspond à 6 drachmes à chaque piastre.

Art. 7. Tant que dure la suspension de la convertibilité en espèces des billets des dites Banques, et leur cours forcé, la Banque Nationale ne peut avoir en circulation des billets de banque au-delà de la somme de 36,000,000 drachmes, non-obstant toute disposition contraire de ses statuts, ni la Banque Ionienne au-delà de 12,000,000 drachmes, non-obstant également toute disposition contraire de sa loi constitutive.

Sont compris dans les dites sommes les billets de chaque Banque actuellement en circulation. Ces Banques sont tenues de publier mensuellement par quelques journaux l'état de la circulation de leurs billets de banque.

Art. 8. Dans les limites de l'Article précédent il est permis à la Banque Nationale d'avoir en circulation des billets de banque de dix drachmes jusqu'à concurrence de 6,000,000 de drachmes, y compris ceux qui sont actuellement en circulation; il est également permis à la Banque Ionienne d'avoir en circulation des billets de banque de 2 piastres, soit 12 drachmes, jusqu'à concurrence de 2,000,000 de drachmes.

Art. 9. La suspension de la convertibilité en espèces des billets de banque et leur cours forcé, d'après les dispositions de l'Article 4, dureront jusqu'à ce que le Gouvernement acquitte envers les dites Banques entièrement les emprunts respectifs que chacune d'elles a fait au fisc, à savoir, 14,000,000 de la Banque Nationale et 7,000,000 de la Banque Ionienne, avec leurs intérêts. Le paiement aura lieu à la Banque Nationale, pour les 10,000,000 et la commission y afférente, en ses billets de banque; et pour les 4,000,000 et leurs intérêts, en espèces sonnantes, d'après le Tarif R en vigueur, à la Banque Ionienne, pour les 5,000,000 et la commission y afférente, en ses billets de banque; et pour les 2,000,000 et leurs intérêts, en espèces sonnantes, également d'après l'Ordonnance Royale en vigueur.

Art. 10. Toutes les fois que le Gouvernement remettra aux Banques, en acquittement de cette dette, leurs propres billets de banque, la somme des billets que chaque Banque peut émettre en vertu de la présente Ordonnance sera réduite d'une somme égale.

Toutes les fois que le fisc comptera à ces Banques des espèces en acquittement du capital du dit emprunt, les Banques sont obligées à garder ces espèces dans les caisses sans pouvoir en faire usage.

Art. 11. Les revenus des salines et des viviers sont donnés en nantissement aux deux Banques, afin que les intérêts et la commission des dits emprunts soient perçus par ces Banques sur ces revenus.

Art. 12. Nous nous réservons de régler prochainement par une Ordonnance spéciale tout ce qui concerne la garantie et l'amortissement de l'emprunt contracté en conformité des dispositions ci-dessus.

Notre Ministre des Finances est chargé de la publication et de l'exécution de la présente Ordonnance.

Athènes, le 30 Décembre, 1868.

(Signé) GEORGE.

(Signé) D. G. BULGARIS.
P. DELYANNI.
M. C. KANARIS.
S. MILIOS.
A. MAVROMICHALIS.
S. C. ANTONOPOULOS.
S. VALAORITIS.

No. 158.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.--(Received January 23.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Erskine, and with which I have sent to him copies of the letter from

the President of the Conference to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, and of the Declaration signed by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 158.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Paris, January 22, 1869.

THE same packet which conveys the Queen's messenger, by whom I send this despatch, takes also to Athens a Secretary from the French Foreign Office, charged with a letter and Declaration, to be delivered, in the name of the Conference, to His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The letter is signed by the French Plenipotentiary, as President of the Conference; and the Declaration bears the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia. I have the honour to transmit to you, herewith, copies of both documents.

Although the Greek Government declined, on a point of form, to allow its Representative to be present at the Conferences, he has been from time to time made acquainted by the President with the proceedings, and he has sent in written communications, which have received attentive consideration. I may add that every endeavour has been made by myself and other Plenipotentiaries to supply, as far as possible, the place of the Greek Representative.

The letter and the Declaration bear upon the face of them abundant evidence of the solicitude with which the Plenipotentiaries have endeavoured to combine with impartiality an anxious regard for the feelings of both parties, and for those of Greece in particular.

The declaration has been drawn up in the earnest hope that it may lead to an immediate renewal of friendly relations between Greece and Turkey. It has already been accepted by Turkey, and the Plenipotentiaries who have signed it are very anxious that the Representatives of their respective Governments at Athens should exert all their influence to obtain the assent to it of the Government of Greece.

You will perceive by the terms of the letter that it is essential that the acceptance of the declaration by the Greek Government should be "pure et simple," and that it should not be delayed beyond a week from the delivery of the letter to His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs. The engagement of the Turkish Government to give up the measures announced in its ultimatum is, in fact, dependent on these conditions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 159.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 23, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government approve the language which your Excellency addressed to Aali Pasha, in regard to the measures adopted by the Porte against Greece and the case of the "Enosis," as reported in your despatch of the 11th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 160.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 23, 1869.

I APPROVE your proceedings with the view to prevent any acts of hostility at Syra during the sittings of the Conference, as reported in your despatch of the 13th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 161.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 23, 1869.

I HAD yesterday a serious conversation with the Greek Minister upon the proceedings of his Government, which were leading to ruin and anarchy, and were deplored by every well-wisher of Greece. I commented upon the Declaration of the Conference, and said that the Greek Government, by rejecting it, would announce that Greece was not to be bound by any of those simple rules of international law upon which a good understanding between nations depended; and I expressed my fear that by persevering in the present course Greece would soon find herself without friends or credit, and would be reduced to deplorable straits.

M. Braila this evening informed me that he had written in strong terms to his Government, advising a policy of moderation and the acceptance of the Declaration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 162.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 23, 1869.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch of the 22nd instant, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approves the despatch inclosed therein which you addressed to Mr. Erskine with copies of the letter and Declaration of the Conference.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 163.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 28.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 27, 1869.

IN my despatch of the 15th instant I inclosed a certified copy of Protocol of the Conference, and in my despatch of the 16th instant I inclosed a certified copy of Protocol No. 2.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith certified copies of Protocols Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 163.

Protocol (No. 3) of Conference held at Paris, January 14, 1869.

Présents :

Les Plénipotentiaires de l'Autriche-Hongrie ;

" " de la France ;

" " de la Grande Bretagne ;

" " de l'Italie ;

" " de la Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord ;

" " de la Russie ;

" " de la Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

M. LE PLENIPOTENTIAIRE DE FRANCE donne connaissance des dépêches télégraphiques qu'il a échangées avec l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des

Français à Constantinople, et d'où il résulte que la Porte adhère au maintien du *statu quo* qui lui a été demandé, en ce sens, qu'aucun sujet Grec ne sera comme tel expulsé de la Turquie jusqu'à la clôture de la délibération actuelle. Quant à la décision relative à la fermeture des ports Ottomans aux bâtimens Grecs, elle a été appliquée à l'expiration du délai fixé, et la Porte déclare ne pouvoir la révoquer avant de connaître le résultat des travaux de la Conférence. Sous cette réserve, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan s'abstiendra avec soin de tout ce qui pourrait entraver la tâche des Puissances.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette constate que la Conférence, en se réunissant à la date d'aujourd'hui, avait l'espoir de connaître également la réponse du Cabinet d'Athènes aux deux démarches faites auprès de lui, suivant la résolution prise en commun. Mais après avoir adressé, depuis le 10 au matin, trois dépêches successives au Ministre de France en Grèce, M. le Marquis de Lavalette n'a encore reçu au moment présent aucun avis à ce sujet, et ce silence est considéré par lui comme l'indice de la résolution du Gouvernement Hellénique de ne pas occuper la place qui lui a été réservée au sein de la Conférence. Chacun des Plénipotentiaires s'étant engagé à prendre les ordres de sa Cour en prévision de cette éventualité, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France demande à ses collègues s'ils sont munis des instructions qu'ils ont sollicitées.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Autriche-Hongrie déclare que son Gouvernement verrait avec regret que les délibérations fussent suspendues, et qu'il est autorisé à y prendre part même sans le concours d'un Représentant de la Grèce.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre fait une déclaration semblable. Il aurait néanmoins préféré à toute autre combinaison celle qui eût assigné au Cabinet d'Athènes la part la plus large dans les discussions et les travaux de la Conférence. Il voudrait donc, dans le cas où la Grèce ne reviendrait pas sur sa détermination, que l'on pût donner au Gouvernement Hellénique les facilités les plus larges pour faire entendre sa voix.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Autriche-Hongrie s'associe à la manière de voir de Lord Lyons, et partage le vœu qu'il vient d'exprimer.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie dit que son Gouvernement, tout en témoignant le désir que la Grèce ne persiste pas dans son abstention, est d'avis que la Conférence poursuive son œuvre pacifique, quelle que soit la résolution définitive du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Prusse est autorisé, dans les deux hypothèses, à continuer à s'associer aux délibérations.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie a reçu de St. Pétersbourg une dépêche télégraphique qui l'empêche de renoncer à tout espoir au sujet de la décision du Gouvernement Hellénique. Dans le cas où cette décision serait négative, il donnera néanmoins son assentiment à ce que les Puissances achèvent leur mission ; mais son attitude se trouvera modifiée à certains égards par l'absence d'un Représentant de la Cour d'Athènes, et il pourra se croire obligé de prendre la défense de la Grèce dans des cas où il eût gardé le silence si le Gouvernement Hellénique eût été représenté.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie dit que les instructions qu'il a demandées, comme ses collègues, sur le point en discussion, ne lui sont pas parvenues jusqu'ici ; mais il déclare qu'il n'a pas de doute sur le sens de la réponse qu'il attend d'heure en heure, et que, dans l'état des choses, il se croit autorisé à participer aux travaux de la Conférence.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette, se reportant au vœu exprimé par Lord Lyons relativement à la forme dans laquelle la Conférence pourrait entrer en communication avec M. le Ministre de Grèce, témoigne le désir que la manière de procéder soit réglée de façon à assurer le secret des délibérations et à ne pas en compromettre la marche.

Après une discussion à laquelle prennent part MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Angleterre, d'Italie, et de Russie, il demeure convenu que M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, agissant en sa qualité de Président, sera autorisé à recevoir les communications que M. le Ministre de Grèce pourrait avoir à faire dans les limites tracées à la mission de la Conférence, et que les documents dont la Conférence, de son côté, jugerait utile de donner connaissance à M. Rangabé pourront lui être transmis par M. le Marquis de Lavalette, sous les réserves qui seraient jugées convenables.

M. le Chevalier Nigra demande quelques explications sur la portée que M. le Comte de Stackelberg attache aux observations qu'il a présentées quant aux devoirs particuliers résultant pour lui de l'absence d'un Représentant Hellénique.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie répond que son intention n'est nullement de se substituer à M. le Ministre de Grèce ; mais qu'il pourrait, dans une pensée d'équité, se trouver appelé à prendre la parole plus souvent qu'il ne l'aurait fait dans d'autres conditions.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre fait observer que la Grèce n'ayant point d'organe au sein de la Conférence, tous les Plénipotentiaires se croiront tenus à plus de modération

encore, s'il est possible, à l'égard du Gouvernement Hellénique, et dans la discussion chacun se fera certainement un devoir de suppléer, autant qu'il serait nécessaire, à l'absence d'un Représentant du Cabinet d'Athènes.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France confirme cette assurance pour ce qui le concerne, et ajoute que les sentiments de justice dont tous les Membres de la Conférence se montrent animés constituent sous ce rapport une garantie de nature à inspirer à la Grèce la plus entière confiance dans l'impartialité de leurs appréciations.

Les Plénipotentiaires étant d'accord sur toutes les questions préliminaires, la Conférence juge que le moment est venu d'entrer dans l'examen des réclamations de la Turquie sur lesquelles elle est appelée à manifester son opinion.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette établit que la Conférence est dans l'impossibilité de former une Commission d'Enquête pour rechercher les faits, et qu'une pareille manière de procéder serait d'ailleurs contraire à l'indépendance des deux parties, car elle impliquerait une véritable intervention dans leur administration intérieure. La Conférence est donc tenue de se renfermer dans l'étude des documents officiels échangés entre la Porte Ottomane et le Cabinet d'Athènes. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France croit que, par cette raison même, il est du devoir de tous d'examiner avec la plus scrupuleuse attention les pièces produites par les deux Gouvernements, et il demande à les résumer préalablement afin de bien déterminer le terrain du débat.

La Conférence ayant donné son assentiment à cette proposition, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France s'exprime dans les termes suivants :—

“ Les actes qui ont constitué la Conférence ont en même temps précisé les limites dans lesquelles devront se renfermer ses délibérations. Ainsi que je l'ai déjà rappelé dans notre première séance, le but unique et précis assigné à nos travaux est d'examiner dans quelle mesure il y a lieu de faire droit aux réclamations formulées dans l'ultimatum du Gouvernement Ottoman. Notre premier soin doit être d'exposer les faits tels que les indiquent les communications échangées entre les deux Cours à la veille de la rupture.

“ Les griefs de la Turquie se résument dans les secours directs de toute nature que la Grèce aurait fournis à une province insurgée de l'Empire Ottoman ; dans l'assistance indirecte que le Gouvernement Hellénique aurait prêtée lui-même à l'insurrection ; dans l'opposition qu'aurait rencontrée en Grèce le repatriement des familles Candiotes ; dans les actes de violence dont les sujets Ottomans auraient été victimes sur le territoire Hellénique ; enfin dans le refus du Cabinet d'Athènes de donner satisfaction, sur ces différents points, aux plaintes réitérées du Gouvernement Ottoman.

Les notes adressées par le Représentant de la Porte au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce rappellent les faits suivants à l'appui de ces réclamations :—

D'après les explications mêmes fournies aux Chambres Helléniques par un ancien Ministre des Finances, une partie du dernier emprunt Grec aurait été consacrée à l'achat du navire la “Crète,” destinée, comme “l'Enosis” et le “Panhellenion,” à porter à l'insurrection Candiote des secours de toute espèce.

Une nouvelle bande de volontaires, levée dans le but avoué de passer en Crète, se serait organisée sur le territoire Hellénique sans rencontrer d'opposition de la part des autorités Grecques. Le chef de ce corps, Petropoulaki, aurait au contraire reçu des armes, des effets d'équipement, et même des canons tirés de l'arsenal de Nauplie. Des officiers appartenant à l'armée Hellénique auraient été désignés pour prendre des commandements dans les bandes de Petropoulaki. Ces bandes elles-mêmes, au moment de leur départ, auraient fait à Athènes une démonstration publique.

La population Grecque se serait opposée par la force, à plusieurs reprises, et notamment le 11 Septembre dernier, au départ des réfugiés Candiotes qui avaient exprimé l'intention de retourner en Crète. Les autorités Helléniques se seraient abstenues d'intervenir. Plus récemment encore, vingt délégués Crétois venus à Egine avec la mission d'opérer le repatriement d'un certain nombre de leurs compatriotes, auraient été victimes d'actes de violence que l'autorité Grecque aurait laissés impunis.

La même impunité aurait été assurée, enfin, aux auteurs d'actes analogues commis sur des sujets Ottomans, officiers ou soldats, assassinés ou maltraités sur le territoire du Royaume.

Le Gouvernement Turc, par son ultimatum du 11 Décembre, 1868, a mis dès lors le Cabinet Hellénique en demeure :—

1. De disperser immédiatement les bandes de volontaires organisées dans les différentes parties du Royaume et empêcher la formation de nouvelles bandes ;

2. De désarmer les corsaires “l'Enosis,” “la Crète,” et le “Panhellénion,” ou, en tout cas, de leur fermer l'accès des ports Helléniques ;

3. D'accorder aux émigrés Crétois non seulement l'autorisation de retourner dans leurs foyers, mais encore une aide et une protection efficace ;

4. De punir conformément aux lois ceux qui se sont rendus coupables d'agressions contre les militaires et les sujets Ottomans, et accorder aux familles des victimes de ces attentats une juste indemnité;

5 De suivre désormais une ligne de conduite conforme aux Traités existants et au droit des gens.

Le Cabinet d'Athènes objecte, en ce qui concerne les trois bâtiments signalés par le Gouvernement Ottoman comme servant à des actes contraires à la neutralité—

Que deux de ces navires, le "Panhellénion" et "l'Enosis," n'ont pas été armés dans des ports Grecs;

Que les institutions du Royaume ne lui permettent pas, et que les règles du droit des gens ne lui font point une obligation d'empêcher des navires appartenant à des particuliers ou à des compagnies commerciales d'aller porter des secours aux insurgés d'une province Ottomane armés contre leur Gouvernement.

Il reconnaît d'ailleurs que "l'Enosis," la "Crète," et le "Panhellénion," qu'il représente comme appartenant à la Compagnie Hellénique, ont porté des vivres aux insurgés Candiotes, tout en se livrant en même temps à d'autres opérations de commerce.

Le Cabinet d'Athènes ne conteste pas davantage la formation de bandes armées sur le territoire Grec. Mais il ne pense pas que ce fait soit contraire au droit international, et ajoute qu'aucune disposition des lois du Royaume ne permet d'empêcher des sujets Helléniques de porter les armes à l'étranger et d'y guerroyer à leurs risques et périls.

Il croit inexact que des officiers appartenant à l'armée Hellénique aient été désignés pour prendre le commandement de la bande de Petropoulaki, et affirme que les autorités militaires ont été invitées par le Ministre de la Guerre à arrêter et à punir les soldats qui auraient déserté pour rejoindre cette même bande.

Le Gouverneur de la forteresse de Nauplie n'avait pas reçu l'ordre de livrer des armes ou des effets d'équipement. M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce fait observer, d'ailleurs, qu'il existe plusieurs fonderies de canons dans le Royaume; celle de Syra, notamment, a été établie par la compagnie à laquelle appartiennent "l'Enosis," la "Crète," et le "Panhellénion."

Quant aux difficultés qu'aurait rencontrées le repatriement des familles Candiotes réfugiées en Grèce, le Cabinet d'Athènes croit pouvoir affirmer que les autorités Helléniques se sont prêtées à toutes les demandes adressées dans ce but. Quatre mille Candiotes sont déjà rentrés dans leur patrie. Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce rappelle, qu'au moment même où la rupture était imminente, plus de 200 émigrés Crétois s'embarquaient au Pirée sans rencontrer la moindre opposition.

Les violences dont quelques Candiotes ont été victimes seraient le fait d'autres Candiotes indignés d'une résolution qu'ils considéraient comme impliquant l'abandon de la cause nationale. Ces actes ne sauraient engager la responsabilité du Gouvernement Hellénique. Les coupables ont d'ailleurs été traduits devant les tribunaux Grecs.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce déclare avoir appris avec étonnement par l'ultimatum de la Porte, que des attentats dirigés contre des sujets Ottomans seraient restés impunis. Il repousse énergiquement une accusation que rien, à sa connaissance, ne justifierait si elle portait sur d'autres faits que l'incident survenu à Syra en 1867, et qui fut l'objet, à cette époque, d'explications que le Gouvernement Turc considéra comme satisfaisantes.

Tel est au fond le différend qui, hier encore, menaçait si gravement la tranquillité en Orient. Le sentiment de ce danger s'imposait aux préoccupations de toutes les Puissances lorsqu'elles se sont entendues pour se réunir en Conférence conformément au vœu pacifique inséré, sur l'initiative du Comte de Clarendon, au vingt-troisième Protocole des Actes du Congrès de Paris.

L'esprit même dans lequel a été conçue et accueillie, à cette époque, la proposition des Plénipotentiaires Britanniques, ne laisse pas de doute sur le rôle assigné à la réunion qui en fait aujourd'hui la première application. La Conférence n'a pas à prendre de décisions de nature à porter atteinte à la liberté d'action des deux Puissances auxquelles elle offre ses bons offices; elle ne peut légitimement qu'examiner les faits, dire ce qui lui paraît être le droit, et présenter les bases d'une réconciliation qu'elle appelle de tous ses vœux. Réduite à ces proportions, sa tâche est encore digne d'elle. Ecartant toute arrière pensée personnelle, dégagées de toute préoccupation étrangère à la recherche du droit, les Puissances qu'elle représente constituent non pas un tribunal chargé de rendre un arrêt, mais un Conseil International dont les appréciations ne sauraient engager les parties que par la liberté même qu'elles leur laissent et l'absence complète de toute autre sanction que celle qu'implique nécessairement, dans l'ordre moral, une telle manifestation de l'opinion publique et en quelque sorte de la conscience Européenne.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie n'élève aucune objection contre l'exposé que vient de présenter M. le Président de la Conférence ; il fait remarquer que, pour le Gouvernement Ottoman, la question se résume dans les cinq points de l'ultimatum remis au Cabinet d'Athènes, et que la Porte demande à la Grèce des satisfactions pour le passé et des engagements pour l'avenir. On pourrait, ajoute M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie, relire l'ultimatum et examiner successivement chacune des réclamations qui y sont énoncées.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France propose de prendre d'abord les deux premiers points de l'ultimatum, et rappelle qu'ils allèguent des faits et affirment des principes. Il prie M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie de vouloir bien faire savoir s'il est en mesure de fournir à la Conférence de nouveaux renseignements sur les points de fait dont elle vient d'entendre l'exposé.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie répond qu'il est en possession de documents qui mettent hors de doute toutes les allégations de son Gouvernement se rapportant à l'état des choses au moment de la remise de l'ultimatum ; que pour ce qui existe au moment actuel, la Turquie n'ayant plus de Légation ni de Consuls en Grèce, n'est pas en position d'être complètement et exactement renseignée, mais qu'il est de notoriété que les manifestations hostiles se reproduisent chaque jour. M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie est donc autorisé à dire que la situation s'est aggravée, sans pouvoir préciser si de nouvelles bandes se sont formées et si de nouveaux armements se font dans les ports Helléniques.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre objecte que ce sont-là des préparatifs de guerre résultant de la situation créée par l'ultimatum, mais non des faits venant corroborer ceux qui sont énoncés dans l'ultimatum lui-même, et c'est précisément cette situation, beaucoup plus grave que les incidents antérieurs, qui a décidé les Puissances à offrir leurs bons offices pour sauvegarder la paix.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie fait observer qu'un examen détaillé des points de fait serait une tâche bien difficile pour la Conférence, et qu'une telle discussion ne présenterait pas beaucoup d'utilité pratique. La Conférence devrait, à son avis, se borner à examiner et à constater les principes qui doivent servir de règle de conduite pour l'avenir dans les rapports de la Grèce avec la Turquie.

M. le Comte de Stackelberg appuie l'opinion exprimée par M. le Chevalier Nigra et déclare qu'à ses yeux la définition des principes est même le seul terrain sur lequel la Conférence puisse se placer ; il dit que c'est à tort que les documents émanés de la Porte appellent pirates ou corsaires les bâtiments qui s'exposaient aux croisières Turques pour porter des vivres aux Crétois. Il ajoute que le bâtiment pirate est en réalité celui qui parcourt les mers dans un but de pillage ; le nom de corsaire est particulièrement attribué par le droit des gens à des bâtiments munis de lettres de marque d'un Gouvernement ; et aucune de ces définitions ne s'applique aux bâtiments Helléniques qui ont forcé depuis deux ans le blocus de l'île de Crète.

Quelle que soit la qualification appliquée à ces bâtiments, M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie tient à constater que, par les armements faits dans les ports de la Grèce aussi bien que par la formation sur le territoire Hellénique des bandes transportées en Crète, les principes de la loi internationale ont été méconnus.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette a été d'avis qu'il était essentiel de se rendre compte préalablement des faits tels qu'ils résultent des documents produits des deux parts, et c'est par cette raison qu'il a cru devoir avant tout en donner l'exposé ; cependant il reconnaît tout l'intérêt qu'il y a à ne point s'engager dans un débat contradictoire sur les détails. Dans l'ultimatum il est question du passé, mais il est question surtout de l'avenir. Le Gouvernement Ottoman ne réclame pas d'indemnités pour les torts qu'il a subis ; il se borne à demander que certaines règles de conduite soient établies et deviennent obligatoires pour la Grèce. Dès lors ce qui importe, c'est de s'entendre sur les principes : et si l'interprétation que la Conférence donnera au droit est conforme à l'interprétation de la Turquie, ce fait constituera en lui-même une satisfaction morale d'autant plus grande qu'elle sera l'expression de l'opinion unanime des principales Puissances de l'Europe. La Conférence, d'ailleurs, voudra sans doute présenter sa décision sous la forme la plus propre à en rendre l'acceptation possible pour la Grèce, et les Plénipotentiaires y sont déjà préparés par le caractère même de la tâche qu'ils accomplissent.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie s'associent entièrement à ces considérations.

M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie déclare que son Gouvernement désire le maintien de la paix aussi sincèrement que les autres Cours, et qu'il l'a prouvé dernièrement encore en acceptant la Conférence proposée par les Puissances sur les bases au sujet desquelles elles sont tombées d'accord ; après les gages de modération qu'elle a données pendant trois

ans d'une patience dans laquelle la Grèce n'a vu qu'un encouragement, la Sublime Porte ne réclame cependant que les satisfactions qui lui sont légitimement dues.

M. le Prince de Metternich est d'avis que le Gouvernement Ottoman peut se contenter d'une Déclaration de la Conférence établissant les principes de droit qui doivent être observés par la Grèce.

M. le Comte de Solms insiste également pour que la Conférence renonce à entrer dans l'examen des faits.

M. le Chevalier Nigra fait remarquer que ce qui importe à la Turquie, c'est d'empêcher pour l'avenir la formation de bandes et d'armements hostiles de la part de la Grèce, et que ce but serait atteint par une Déclaration qui établirait que des faits de ce genre sont contraires aux règles ordinaires de la neutralité et ne doivent pas se renouveler.

Avant de se prononcer à cet égard, M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie aurait besoin de connaître la forme qui sera donnée à la Déclaration collective et la portée qu'il conviendra d'y attribuer.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette répond qu'il appartiendra à la Conférence de décider de la forme de ce document ; que, dans tous les cas, il sera consacré soit par le procès-verbal de la séance où il sera adopté, soit par un Protocole spécial. Il aura ainsi la sanction de l'Europe. Dans la pensée de M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, on pourrait commencer par établir que les principes du droit des gens obligent la Grèce, comme toutes les autres nations, à ne pas permettre que des bandes se recrutent sur son territoire ou que des bâtiments s'arment dans ses ports pour attaquer un Etat voisin. On en déduirait que la Grèce devra s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer les actes contraires à cette règle de conduite, ce qui répondrait à la fois au vœu exprimé dans le 5ème point et aux griefs allégués dans les deux premiers. Il y aurait lieu pour la Turquie de renoncer aux mesures annoncées par elle, si la Grèce, dans une communication adressée aux Cabinets, déférait à l'opinion émise par la Conférence.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie demande s'il y aura, dans ce cas, un engagement de la Grèce envers la Turquie.

M. le Chevalier Nigra fait remarquer que d'après les indications données par M. le Marquis de Lavalette, l'engagement de la Grèce aura un caractère encore plus solennel, car il sera contracté envers l'Europe.

M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie, dans la prévision d'une proposition de cette nature, avait demandé des instructions à son Gouvernement ; il répète qu'il doit les attendre pour engager son opinion.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie se déclarent disposés à adopter entièrement la manière de procéder qui a été indiquée, et ils manifestent le désir que dans la prochaine séance l'on puisse s'entendre en ce qui touche la question de principe sur laquelle seule la Conférence juge utile de se prononcer.

Les Plénipotentiaires échangent ensuite leurs idées sur le 3ème point, relatif aux réfugiés Candiotes.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette propose de prendre acte des déclarations faites à ce sujet par le Cabinet d'Athènes dans ses notes du 9 et du 13 Décembre, en exprimant l'espoir qu'il se prêterait à faciliter autant qu'il dépend de lui le départ des familles Crétoises qui désireraient rentrer dans leur patrie.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de la Turquie, sans élever d'objections contre cette proposition, croit devoir rappeler que les assurances précédemment données par le Cabinet Grec au sujet des Crétois n'ont pas reçu d'exécution, et il invoque à ce sujet le témoignage des Commandants des Forces Navales étrangères dans les eaux de la Grèce, ainsi que celui des Agents Diplomatiques et Consulaires des Puissances.

Quant aux actes d'agression commis en Grèce sur la personne des sujets Turcs, et qui forment l'objet du 4ème point de l'ultimatum Ottoman, la Turquie acceptant la juridiction des Tribunaux Grecs, il suffira, suivant M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, d'établir que le Gouvernement Hellénique devra faire exécuter les lois et faciliter la répression des crimes ou délits qui lui sont signalés.

Les Plénipotentiaires conviennent de rechercher, chacun de son côté, les éléments d'une rédaction commune répondant aux idées émises dans le cours de la délibération. Ils espèrent que M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie recevra incessamment les instructions qu'il attend, et qu'en présence du rapprochement qui se manifeste de plus en plus dans les vues de toutes les Cours, la Conférence pourra promptement achever son œuvre.

M. le Prince de Metternich rappelant les suppositions qui tendaient à accréditer l'opinion que son Gouvernement n'avait pas vu avec déplaisir s'élever le différend entre la

Turquie et la Grèce, et chercherait même à susciter des complications en Orient, attache un prix particulier à seconder ces dispositions conciliantes et exprime le vœu que l'entente définitive ne tarde pas davantage à s'établir.

La Conférence s'ajourne à demain, 15 Janvier.

Fait à Paris, le 14 Janvier, 1869.

(Suivent les signatures.)

(Translation.)

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

”	”	France ;
”	”	Great Britain ;
”	”	Italy ;
”	”	Prussia and the North German Confederation ;
”	”	Russia ;
”	”	Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE Plenipotentiary of France communicates the telegraphic despatches which he has exchanged with the Ambassador of His Majesty the Emperor of the French at Constantinople, and from which it results that the Porte adheres to the maintenance of the *status quo* demanded of it; in this sense, that no Greek subject shall, as such, be expelled from Turkey until the closing of the actual deliberation. As for the decision relative to the closing of the Ottoman ports to Greek vessels, it was applied on the expiration of the delay determined on, and the Porte declares that she cannot recall it before knowing the result of the labours of the Conference. With this reserve the Government of His Majesty the Sultan will carefully abstain from everything which might hinder the task of the Powers.

The Marquis de Lavalette states that the Conference in coming together to-day was in hopes of learning at the same time the answer of the Cabinet of Athens to the two communications addressed to it, in accordance with the resolution taken in common. But, after having addressed, since 10 o'clock in the morning, three successive despatches to the French Minister in Greece, M. de Lavalette has not, up to the present moment, received any information on this subject, and this silence is considered by him as indicating the determination of the Hellenic Government not to occupy the place which was reserved for it at the Conference. Each of the Plenipotentiaries having undertaken to take the orders of his Court, in view of this eventuality, the Plenipotentiary of France asks his colleagues if they are furnished with the instructions they applied for.

The Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary declares that his Government would see with regret the suspension of the deliberations; and that he is authorized to take part in them even without the co-operation of a Representative of Greece.

The Plenipotentiary of England makes a similar declaration. He would nevertheless have preferred to any other arrangement that which should have assigned to the Cabinet of Athens the largest share in the discussions and labours of the Conference. He would wish, therefore, in the event of Greece not altering her determination, that the Hellenic Government should be allowed the greatest facilities for making its voice heard.

The Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary coincides with the view taken by Lord Lyons, and shares the wish he has just expressed.

The Plenipotentiary of Italy says that his Government, though desirous that Greece should not persist in her abstention, is of opinion that the Conference should pursue its pacific work, whatever may be the final determination of the Government of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes.

The Plenipotentiary of Prussia is authorized, in either hypothesis, to continue to assist at the deliberations.

The Plenipotentiary of Russia has received a telegraphic despatch from St. Petersburg which prevents his giving up all hope on the subject of the decision of the Hellenic Government. In the event of this decision being in the negative, he will, nevertheless, give his assent to the Powers carrying out their undertaking; but his attitude will, in certain respects, be modified by the absence of a Representative of the Court of Athens, and he may think himself obliged to undertake the defence of Greece under circum-

stances in which he would have remained silent if the Hellenic Government had been represented.

The Plenipotentiary of Turkey says that the instructions which he, like his colleagues, has applied for on the point under discussion have not as yet reached him; but he declares that he has no doubt about the purport of the answer which he expects every hour, and that, under the circumstances, he thinks himself authorized to take part in the labours of the Conference.

The Marquis de Lavalette, referring to the wish expressed by Lord Lyons relative to the manner in which the Conference might enter into communication with the Greek Minister, expresses the desire that the manner of proceeding should be regulated in such a way as to secure secrecy in the deliberations and not to compromise their course.

After a discussion, in which the Plenipotentiaries of England, Italy, and Russia take part, it is agreed that the Plenipotentiary of France, acting in his capacity as President, shall be authorized to receive the communications which the Minister of Greece might have to make within the limits prescribed to the Conference; and that the documents which the Conference on its part might think expedient to communicate to M. Rangabé, may be transmitted to him by the Marquis de Lavalette under the conditions which may be considered suitable.

The Chevalier Nigra asks for some explanations as to the bearing which Count Stackelberg attaches to the remarks made by him respecting the particular duties devolving on him in the absence of a Hellenic Representative.

The Plenipotentiary of Russia replies that he has no intention to substitute himself for the Greek Minister, but that he might, from an idea of equity, find himself called upon to speak more frequently than he would have done under other circumstances.

The Plenipotentiary of England remarks that Greece having no voice in the Conference, all the Plenipotentiaries will consider themselves bound to still greater moderation, if possible, with regard to the Hellenic Government: and that in the debate each one will certainly make it his duty, as far as may be necessary, to supply the absence of a Representative of the Cabinet of Athens.

The Plenipotentiary of France confirms this assurance as far as he is concerned, and adds that the feelings of justice with which all the Members of the Conference seem to be animated, constitute on this point a guarantee of a nature to inspire Greece with the utmost confidence in the impartiality of their views.

The Plenipotentiaries being agreed on all the preliminary questions, the Conference considers that the time is come to enter into an examination of the demands of Turkey respecting which it is called upon to declare its opinion.

The Marquis de Lavalette states that it is impossible for the Conference to form a Commission of Inquiry to search out facts, and that such a mode of proceeding would besides be adverse to the independence of the two parties, for it would imply a real interference in their internal administration. The Conference is, therefore, bound to confine itself to an examination of the official documents exchanged between the Ottoman Porte and the Cabinet of Athens.

The Plenipotentiary of France thinks that for this same reason it is the duty of all to examine with the most scrupulous attention the documents produced by the two Governments, and he asks leave first to recapitulate them so as clearly to mark out the ground of the debate.

The Conference having given its assent to this proposition, the Plenipotentiary of France expresses himself in the following terms:—

The acts which have constituted the Conference have at the same time prescribed the limits within which its deliberations ought to be confined. As I have already mentioned in our first meeting, the sole and precise end assigned to our labours is to examine to what extent the demands made in the ultimatum of the Ottoman Government can be justified. Our first care should be to state the facts as they are set forth in the communications exchanged between the two Courts on the eve of the rupture.

The grievances of Turkey consist in the direct succour of every description alleged to have been furnished by Greece to an insurgent province of the Ottoman Empire; in the indirect assistance given by the Greek Government to the insurrection; in the opposition met with in Greece to the repatriation of Candiote families; in the acts of violence of which Ottoman subjects had been the victims on Hellenic territory; lastly, in the refusal of the Cabinet of Athens to give satisfaction on these various points to the repeated complaints of the Ottoman Government.

The notes addressed by the Representative of the Porte to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs recall the following facts in support of these demands:—

According even to the explanations furnished to the Hellenic Chambers by a late

Finance Minister, a part of the last Greek loan was devoted to the purchase of the ship the "Crete," destined, like the "Enosis," and the "Panhellenion," to carry assistance of every kind to the Candiote insurrection.

A new band of volunteers levied with the avowed object of passing into Crete was organized on the Hellenic territory without meeting with opposition on the part of the Greek authorities. The chief of this band, Petropoulaki, received, on the contrary, arms, accoutrements, and even cannons, drawn from the arsenal at Nauplia. Officers belonging to the Greek army were designated to take commands in the bands of Petropoulaki. These same bands, at the moment of their departure, made a public demonstration at Athens.

The Greek population, on several occasions, and particularly on the 11th of September last, opposed by force the departure of the Candiote refugees who had expressed their intention of returning to Crete. The Hellenic authorities abstained from interference. More recently still, twenty Cretan delegates who had arrived at Ægina with the mission of effecting the repatriation of a certain number of their countrymen, had been subjected to acts of violence, which the Greek authorities had left unpunished; the same impunity had, moreover, been insured to the authors of similar acts committed against Ottoman subjects, officers, or soldiers, assassinated or maltreated on the territory of the kingdom.

The Turkish Government, by its ultimatum of 11th December, 1868, summoned the Hellenic Cabinet—

1. To disperse immediately the bands of volunteers organized in the different parts of the kingdom, and to prevent the formation of new ones.

2. To disarm the corsairs the "Enosis," the "Crete," and the "Panhellenion," or at all events, to forbid their entrance into Greek ports.

3. To accord to the Cretan emigrants not only a permission to return to their homes but also effectual aid and protection.

4. To punish in conformity with the laws, those who have rendered themselves guilty of aggressions against Ottoman soldiers and subjects, and to grant to the families injured by these attempts a just indemnity.

5. To pursue henceforth a line of conduct in conformity with existing Treaties and international law.

The Cabinet of Athens objects as regards the three ships designated by the Ottoman Government as employed in acts at variance with neutrality, that two of these ships, the "Panhellenion and the "Enosis" were not armed in Greek ports.

That the laws of the realm do not allow them, and the rules of international law do not make it obligatory on them to prevent ships belonging to private persons or to commercial companies from carrying assistance to the insurgents of an Ottoman province in arms against their Government.

They admit, however, that the "Enosis," the "Crete," and the "Panhellenion," which they represent as belonging to the Hellenic Company, carried victuals to the Candian insurgents, while transacting at the same time other commercial operations.

The Cabinet of Athens does not even dispute the formation of armed bands on Greek territory, but they do not think that this act is contrary to international law, and they add that no provision in the laws of the realm permits them to prevent Hellenic subjects from carrying arms into a foreign country, and making war there at their own risk and peril.

They believe it to be incorrect that officers belonging to the Hellenic army have been designated to take the command of the band of Petropoulaki, and they declare that the military authorities have been invited by the Minister for War to arrest and punish soldiers deserting to join this same band.

The Governor of the fortress of Nauplia had not received orders to furnish arms and accoutrements. Besides, the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs calls attention to the fact of the existence of several cannon foundries in the kingdom; notably the one at Syra had been established by the company to which the "Enosis," the "Crete," and the "Panhellenion" belong.

With regard to the alleged difficulties in the way of the repatriation of the Candian families refugees in Greece, the Cabinet of Athens think they can affirm that the Hellenic authorities have attended to all the demands made on this subject. Four thousand Candiotes have already returned to their country. The Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs recalls the fact that at the very moment when the capture was imminent, more than 200 Cretan emigrants embarked at the Piræus without meeting the least opposition.

The violence to which some Candiotes were subjected might be the act of other

Candiotes indignant at a resolution which they considered as implying an abandonment of the national cause. These acts could not involve the responsibility of the Hellenic Government. Besides, the culprits had been brought up before the Greek tribunals.

The Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs states that he learnt with astonishment from the ultimatum of the Porte that attempts directed against Ottoman subjects had remained unpunished. He repudiates energetically an accusation, which nothing to his knowledge would justify if it related to other facts than the incident which occurred at Syra in 1867, and which was the subject at that time of explanations which the Turkish Government considered satisfactory.

Such is in substance the dispute which even yesterday menaced so seriously the tranquillity of the East. The feeling of this danger occupied the attention of all the Powers when they agreed to assemble in Conference, in conformity with the pacific wish inserted at the proposal of the Earl of Clarendon in the twenty-third Protocol of the Acts of the Congress of Paris.

The spirit, indeed, in which the proposition of the British Plenipotentiaries was at that period conceived and accepted leaves no doubt as to the part assigned to the meeting which to-day for the first time applies it. The Conference has not to take any decisions of a nature to attack the liberty of action of the two Powers to whom it offers its good offices; legitimately it can only examine facts, say what it considers to be right, and propose the bases of a reconciliation which it earnestly desires. Reduced to these proportions, its task is still worthy of it. Dismissing all personal considerations, unembarrassed by any preoccupation not connected with the search after right, the Powers which it represents constitute not a tribunal charged with giving a verdict, but an International Council, the views of which cannot pledge the parties otherwise than by the very freedom which it leaves them, and the entire absence of any other sanction than that which in a moral sense is necessarily implied by such a manifestation of public opinion, and in some respect of the conscience of Europe.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary raises no objection to the statement which the President of the Conference has just given; he observes that for the Ottoman Government the question is summed up in the five points of the ultimatum transmitted to the Cabinet of Athens, and that the Porte demands from Greece satisfaction for the past and promises for the future. They might, adds the Turkish Plenipotentiary, read over the ultimatum and examine in succession each of the demands which are set forth in it.

The French Plenipotentiary proposes, first, to take the two first points of the ultimatum, and observes that they allege facts, and confirm principles. He begs the Turkish Plenipotentiary to have the goodness to state whether he is in a position to furnish the Conference with fresh information on the points of fact which have just been stated.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary answers that he is in possession of documents which place beyond doubt all the allegations of his Government which refer to the state of affairs at the moment of sending the ultimatum; that as to that which now exists, Turkey, having no longer a Legation or Consuls in Greece, is not in a position to be completely and exactly informed, but that it is notorious that hostile manifestations take place every day. The Turkish Plenipotentiary is, therefore, justified in saying that the state of affairs is aggravated, without being able to state exactly whether new bands have been organized, and new armaments prepared in Greek ports.

The English Ambassador objects that these are preparations for war, resulting from the state of affairs produced by the ultimatum, and not from facts corroborating those enunciated in the ultimatum itself; and it is precisely this state of affairs, much more serious than the previous incidents, that has decided the Powers to offer their good offices for the preservation of peace.

The Italian Plenipotentiary remarks that a detailed examination of points of fact would be a task of great difficulty for the Conference, and that a debate of such a nature would not offer much practical advantage. The Conference ought, in his opinion, to confine itself to examining and determining the principles which should serve as a rule of future conduct in the relations between Greece and Turkey.

Count Stackelberg supports the opinion expressed by the Chevalier Nigra, and declares that in his opinion the definition of principles is even the only ground the Conference can take. He says that the documents emanating from the Porte are wrong in giving the name of pirates, or corsairs, to the vessels which exposed themselves to Turkish cruisers in order to carry victuals to the Cretans. He adds that a pirate vessel is in reality one which traverses the sea with the object of pillage; the name corsair is especially ascribed by international law to ships furnished with letters of marque from a Government: and none of these definitions apply to the Greek vessels which have for the last two years run the blockade of the Isle of Crete.

Whatever may be the term applied to these vessels, the Turkish Plenipotentiary is anxious to state that, by the armaments made in Greek ports, as well as by the formation on Hellenic territory of the bands which have been conveyed to Crete, the principles of international law have been ignored.

The Marquis de Lavalette was of opinion that it was essential, first of all, to take into consideration the facts as they appear from the documents produced by both parties; and it is on this account that he thought it his duty first of all to state them: nevertheless, he recognizes the importance of not engaging in a controversial discussion on details. In the ultimatum, it is a question of the past, but the question above all concerns the future. The Ottoman Government does not claim indemnities for wrongs which it has suffered; it confines itself to demanding that certain rules of conduct should be established, and should become binding on Greece. What is wanted, therefore, is to come to an understanding on principles; and if the interpretation which the Conference may give of the law is in conformity with the interpretation of Turkey, this fact will constitute in itself a moral satisfaction, the greater, as it will be an expression of the unanimous opinion of the principal Powers of Europe. The Conference, besides, will doubtless wish to offer its decision in the form most appropriate to render its acceptance possible for Greece: and the Plenipotentiaries are already prepared for it by the very character of the task which they are fulfilling.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia concur entirely in these considerations.

The Turkish Ambassador declares that his Government desire the maintenance of peace as sincerely as the other Courts, and that they have lately proved it by accepting the Conference proposed by the Powers on the bases agreed upon; after the proofs of moderation which they have given during three years with a patience which Greece has viewed only as an encouragement, the Sublime Porte, nevertheless, only demands the reparation which is legitimately due to it.

The Prince Metternich is of opinion that the Ottoman Government may content itself with a Declaration of the Conference establishing the principles of law which ought to be observed by Greece.

Count Solms also insists that the Conference should renounce entering into an examination of facts.

The Chevalier Nigra observes that what is important to Turkey is for the future to put a stop to the formation of hostile bands and armaments on the part of Greece, and that this object would be attained by a Declaration which should lay down that facts of this nature are contrary to the ordinary rules of neutrality, and ought not to be repeated.

Before giving his opinion upon this point, the Turkish Ambassador would require to know the form which will be given to the collective Declaration, and the bearing which it will be right to assign to it.

The Marquis de Lavalette replies that it will be for the Conference to decide on the form of this document; that in any case it will be sanctioned either by the *procès-verbal* of the sitting in which it is adopted or by a special Protocol. It will thus have the sanction of Europe. In the opinion of the French Plenipotentiary they might begin by laying down that the principles of international law compel Greece, the same as all other nations, not to allow bands to recruit on her territory or vessels to arm in her ports in order to attack a neighbouring State. It would be inferred from this, that henceforth Greece ought to abstain from favouring or tolerating acts at variance with this line of conduct, which would satisfy both the wish expressed in the fifth point and the wrongs alleged in the two first. There would be an opportunity for Turkey to retract the measures she announced, if Greece, in a communication addressed to the Cabinets, deferred to the opinion expressed by the Conference.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary asks if there would be, in such a case, an engagement on the part of Greece towards Turkey.

The Chevalier Nigra observes that according to the explanations given by the Marquis de Lavalette, the engagement of Greece will have a still more solemn character, for it will be contracted with Europe.

The Turkish Ambassador, in view of a proposition of that nature, had asked for instructions from his Government; he repeats that he must await them before engaging his opinion.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia declare that they are disposed to adopt entirely the manner of proceeding indicated, and they express a wish that at the next sitting an understanding may be come to in respect

to the question of principle on which alone the Conference considers it expedient to pronounce.

The Plenipotentiaries then exchange ideas on the third point, relating to the Candiot refugees.

The Marquis de Lavalette proposes to take cognizance of the declarations made on this subject by the Cabinet of Athens in their notes of the 9th and 13th of December, while expressing a hope that they will help to facilitate, so far as lies in their power, the departure of the Cretan families who may desire to return to their country.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary, without raising objections to this proposal, thinks it right to call to mind that the assurances previously given by the Greek Cabinet on the subject of the Cretans have not been carried out, and he invokes on this point the testimony of the commanders of the foreign naval forces in Greek waters, as well as that of the Diplomatic and Consular Agents of the Powers.

As for the acts of aggression committed in Greece on the persons of Turkish subjects, which form the subject of the fourth point of the Turkish ultimatum, as Turkey accepts the jurisdiction of the Greek tribunals, it will be sufficient, according to the French Plenipotentiary, to lay down that the Hellenic Government should cause the laws to be put in force, and should facilitate the repression of the crimes and offences which are made known to them.

The Plenipotentiaries agree to consider, each on his part, the materials of a common text in accordance with the ideas expressed in the course of the deliberation; they hope that the Turkish Plenipotentiary will at once receive the instructions he is expecting, and that in view of the agreement which becomes more and more apparent between the views of all the Courts, the Conference will be able promptly to complete its work.

Prince Metternich referring to the suggestions which tended to accredit the opinion that his Government had not been displeased at seeing the dispute arise between Turkey and Greece, and would even endeavour to excite complications in the East, attaches particular importance to seconding these conciliatory dispositions, and expresses the hope that the definitive understanding may be come to without delay.

The Conference adjourns till to-morrow, 15th January.

Done in Paris, January 14, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 163.

Protocol (No. 4) of Conference held at Paris, January 15, 1869.

Présents :

MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie ;

” ” de France ;

” ” de la Grande Bretagne ;

” ” d'Italie ;

” ” de Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord ;

” ” de Russie ;

” ” de Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

M. LE PLENIPOTENTIAIRE DE FRANCE rappelle que les membres de la Conférence en se séparant hier étaient convenus de délibérer dans la séance d'aujourd'hui sur un projet de Déclaration destiné à être communiqué à la Grèce. Il a lui-même indiqué ses idées dans un travail, sans caractère officiel, élaboré uniquement pour servir de thème à la discussion. Il demande que chacun présente les observations auxquelles la rédaction proposée par lui aurait pu donner lieu.

La plupart des Plénipotentiaires déclarent qu'ils n'ont aucune objection à élever sur l'ensemble, et M. le Plénipotentiaire de Prusse propose que le document rédigé par M. le Marquis de Lavalette soit lu paragraphe par paragraphe.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie dit que n'étant pas encore en possession des instructions qu'il attend, il assistera à la discussion faisant ses réserves.

Sur les explications qui lui sont demandées par MM. les Plénipotentiaires de Prusse

et de Russie, M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie ajoute que la Déclaration projetée soulève pour lui une question de conduite sur laquelle il a besoin de connaître l'avis préalable de son Gouvernement.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie reconnaît qu'en effet le Représentant de la Porte peut se demander sous quelle forme il devra s'associer à la Déclaration collective; et suivant M. le Chevalier Nigra, il n'est pas nécessaire que M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie appose sa signature à ce document: il signerait simplement le Protocole dans lequel l'adoption de la Déclaration sera constatée.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Autriche-Hongrie croit qu'il est indispensable que le Représentant de la Turquie soit lié par le Protocole, s'il ne croit pas pouvoir s'associer à la Déclaration; et M. le Prince de Metternich fait remarquer au surplus que dans le cas où le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie participerait à la Déclaration, le projet présenté par M. le Marquis de Lavalette devrait être modifié dans plusieurs passages de sa rédaction.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France dit qu'il appartient à M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie d'examiner le parti qu'il lui convient de prendre, soit qu'il désire signer la Déclaration finale ou simplement le Protocole, et les réserves qu'il peut faire à ce sujet n'empêchent pas la discussion sur la Déclaration elle-même.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie donne son assentiment à cette proposition.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette lit le premier paragraphe, ainsi conçu, du projet communiqué par lui à ses collègues:—

“Justement préoccupées des dangers qui peuvent naître de la rupture des relations entre la Turquie et la Grèce, les Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856 se sont entendues pour apaiser le différend survenu entre les deux Etats, et ont autorisé à cet effet leurs Représentants auprès de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français à se constituer en Conférence.

“Après une étude attentive des documents échangés entre les deux Gouvernements, les Plénipotentiaires sont tombés d'accord pour regretter que, cédant à des entraînements sur lesquels son patriotisme a pu l'égarer, la Grèce ait donné lieu aux griefs articulés par la Porte Ottomane dans l'ultimatum remis le 11 Décembre, 1868, au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes. Il est constant, en effet, que les principes du droit des gens obligent la Grèce, comme toutes les autres nations, à ne pas permettre que des bandes se recrutent sur son territoire, ni que des bâtiments s'arment dans ses ports pour attaquer un Etat voisin.”

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie demande incidemment s'il était permis à la Grèce d'agir comme elle l'a fait dans l'affaire de Crète.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France fait observer que la Conférence a jugé à dessein convenable de ne pas s'engager dans l'interprétation des lois Helléniques, et qu'une semblable manière de procéder aurait des inconvénients qui se présentent d'eux-mêmes à l'esprit.

M. le Chevalier Nigra pense qu'il est utile pour la Turquie, sans entrer dans l'examen des lois intérieures qui sont révocables, de se placer sur le terrain du droit des gens qui est permanent.

A la suite de ces observations le premier paragraphe du projet de Déclaration est adopté.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette donne lecture du deuxième paragraphe ci-après:—

“Persuadée d'ailleurs que le Cabinet d'Athènes ne saurait méconnaître la pensée qui inspire cette appréciation aux trois Cours protectrices de la Grèce, comme à toutes les autres Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856, la Conférence déclare que le Gouvernement Hellénique est tenu d'observer dans ses rapports avec la Turquie les règles de conduite communes à tous les Gouvernements, et de satisfaire ainsi aux réclamations formulées par la Sublime Porte pour le passé en la rassurant en même temps pour l'avenir.

“La Grèce devra donc s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer la formation sur son territoire de toute bande armée en vue d'une agression contre la Turquie, et prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour empêcher l'armement dans ses ports de bâtiments destinés à secourir, sous quelque forme que ce soit, toute tentative d'insurrection dans les possessions de Sa Majesté le Sultan.”

Sur les observations de plusieurs Plénipotentiaires la seconde partie de ce paragraphe est modifiée ainsi qu'il suit:—

“La Grèce devra donc s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer:

“1. La formation sur son territoire de toute bande armée en vue d'une agression contre la Turquie.

“2. L'armement dans ses ports de bâtiments destinés à secourir, sous quelque forme que ce soit, toute tentative d'insurrection dans les possessions de Sa Majesté le Sultan.”

M. le Marquis de Lavalette continue la lecture de son projet et propose la rédaction suivante au sujet du repatriement des Crétois :—

“ En ce qui regarde les demandes de la Porte relatives au repatriement des sujets Turcs réfugiés sur le territoire Hellénique, la Conférence prend acte des déclarations faites par le Cabinet d'Athènes dans ses notes des 9 et 13 Décembre, et demeure convaincue qu'il se prêtera à faciliter, autant qu'il dépend de lui, le départ des familles Candiotès qui désireraient rentrer dans leur patrie.”

Ce paragraphe est adopté avec la substitution des mots “ Crétois émigrés ” à ceux de “ sujets Turcs.”

Le paragraphe suivant est ainsi conçu :—

“ Quant aux dommages privés encourus par des sujets Ottomans, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne contestant nullement à la Turquie le droit de faire poursuivre par la voie judiciaire les réparations qui pourraient être dues, et la Turquie acceptant, de son côté, la juridiction des Tribunaux Grecs, les Plénipotentiaires ne croient pas devoir entrer dans l'examen des faits et sont d'avis que le Cabinet d'Athènes ne doit négliger aucune des voies légales pour que l'œuvre de la justice suive son cours régulier.”

Cette rédaction n'ayant donné lieu à aucune observation, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France achève en ces termes la lecture de son projet :

“ La Conférence ne saurait douter que devant l'expression unanime de l'opinion des Plénipotentiaires sur les questions soumises à leur examen, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne s'empresse de conformer ses actes aux principes qui viennent d'être rappelés, et que les griefs exposés dans l'ultimatum de la Porte ne se trouvent par le fait même définitivement écartés.

“ Cette Déclaration sera portée sans délai à la connaissance du Cabinet d'Athènes, et les Plénipotentiaires ont la conviction que la Sublime Porte renoncera à donner suite aux mesures annoncées par elle comme devant être la conséquence de la rupture des relations diplomatiques, si, dans une communication notifiée aux Cabinets, la Grèce défère à l'opinion émise par la Conférence.

“ Les Plénipotentiaires faisant dès lors appel aux mêmes sentiments de conciliation et de paix qui animent les Cours dont ils sont les Représentants, expriment l'espoir que les deux Gouvernements n'hésiteront pas à renouer leurs rapports et à effacer ainsi, dans l'intérêt commun de leurs sujets, toute trace du dissentiment qui a motivé la réunion de la Conférence.”

M. le Prince de Metternich propose qu'un délai soit fixé à la Grèce pour faire connaître si elle s'engage à se conformer à la Déclaration qui lui sera transmise.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France appuie cette proposition, qui lui paraît d'un intérêt égal pour les deux parties, et il pense que le délai, auquel d'ailleurs on devrait s'abstenir avec soin de donner un caractère comminatoire, pourrait courir du jour de la remise de la Déclaration entre les mains du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce.

M. le Chevalier Nigra regarde comme essentiel que la Turquie adhère préalablement à la Déclaration, et elle pourrait le faire en reproduisant les termes de ce document, c'est-à-dire, en affirmant qu'elle renoncera à donner suite aux mesures qu'implique le rejet de son ultimatum si la Grèce défère à l'opinion émise par la Conférence.

M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie exprime l'espoir que si la Grèce prend l'engagement d'observer désormais les prescriptions du droit international, la Porte ne fera pas d'objection au rétablissement des rapports diplomatiques ; mais il ne voit pas la nécessité de faire dès à présent une déclaration à ce sujet.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France constate qu'il ne s'agit plus en ce moment que de déterminer dans quels termes et dans quel délai il serait nécessaire que le Gouvernement Hellénique répondît pour que la Porte pût retirer les mesures résultant de son ultimatum.

M. le Chevalier Nigra est d'avis que la Déclaration devrait être portée à la connaissance du Gouvernement Hellénique par une dépêche du Président de la Conférence. Cette dépêche tracerait implicitement au Cabinet d'Athènes sa réponse, qui devrait consister dans une acceptation pure et simple.

M. le Comte de Stackelberg approuve cette manière de procéder ; il pense que la fixation d'un terme dans la Déclaration y donnerait un caractère impératif qu'elle ne doit pas revêtir, et qu'il suffira de mentionner le délai dans la dépêche que le Président adressera au Gouvernement Hellénique au nom de la Conférence, et dont les termes pourraient être discutés et arrêtés d'un commun accord.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette dit qu'il est prêt à se conformer aux intentions de la Conférence.

Au moment où la séance allait être levée, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France reçoit communication d'un document autographié et non signé, portant le titre de “ Mémoire sur le Conflit Greco-Turc,” et qui lui est transmis par M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris.

Après avoir pris connaissance de cette pièce, ainsi que de ses annexes, et en avoir lu les principaux passages à la Conférence, M. le Marquis de Lavalette propose, pour en faciliter l'étude, d'en faire distribuer des copies à chacun des Plénipotentiaires, qui pourront ainsi en mieux apprécier l'argumentation.

Afin de déférer au vœu unanimement exprimé dans la dernière réunion que les communications de la Grèce soient accueillies avec bienveillance et sérieusement examinées, les Plénipotentiaires décident que le projet de Déclaration sur lequel ils sont tombés d'accord ne sera pas paraphé avant que chacun d'eux ait pu se rendre compte de la valeur du document émané de la Chancellerie Hellénique.

Fait à Paris, le 15 Janvier, 1869.

(Suivent les signatures.)

(Translation.)

Present.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

"	"	France ;
"	"	Great Britain ;
"	"	Italy ;
"	"	Prussia and the North German Confederation ;
"	"	Russia ;
"	"	Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE Plenipotentiary of France calls to mind that the Members of the Conference when separating yesterday agreed to deliberate in to-day's sitting on a draft of Declaration intended to be communicated to Greece. He has himself given his ideas in an unofficial paper prepared solely as a text for discussion. He asks every one to offer such observations as the text proposed by him may give rise to.

Most of the Plenipotentiaries declare that they have no objection to make to the general tenor of it, and the Plenipotentiary of Prussia proposes that the document prepared by the Marquis de Lavalette should be read paragraph by paragraph.

The Plenipotentiary of Turkey says that not having yet received the instructions which he is expecting, he will take part in the discussion under reservations.

On being asked for explanations by the Plenipotentiaries of Prussia and Russia, the Turkish Ambassador adds that the proposed declaration raises a question as to the course to be taken by him, on which he must first know the opinion of his Government.

The Plenipotentiary of Italy admits that the Representative of the Porte may, in fact, have some doubt as to the form in which he should take part in the collective Declaration, and in the opinion of the Chevalier Nigra it is not necessary that the Plenipotentiary of Turkey should sign that document ; he should simply sign the Protocol in which the adoption of the Declaration will be stated.

The Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary thinks that it is indispensable that the Representative of Turkey should be bound by the Protocol if he does not think himself at liberty to take part in the Declaration ; and Prince Metternich further observes that in case the Turkish Plenipotentiary should take part in the Declaration, the draft prepared by the Marquis de Lavalette would have to be modified in several passages of the text.

The Plenipotentiary of France says that it is for the Turkish Plenipotentiary to examine the course which it is right for him to take, whether he desires to sign the final Declaration or only the Protocol, and the reservations which he may make on the subject do not prevent a discussion of the Declaration itself.

The Plenipotentiary of Turkey gives his assent to this proposition.

The Marquis de Lavalette reads the first paragraph as follows, of the draft communicated by him to his colleagues.

"Justly pre-occupied with the dangers which may arise from the rupture of relations between Turkey and Greece, the Powers signatories of the Treaty of 1856 have come to an understanding to settle the dispute which has arisen between the two States, and for this purpose have authorized their Representatives at the Court of His Majesty the Emperor of the French to meet in Conference.

"After an attentive study of the documents exchanged between the two Governments the Plenipotentiaries have agreed in regretting that, yielding to impulses with regard to which she may have been led astray by her patriotism, Greece should have given occasion for the grievances specified by the Ottoman Porte in the ultimatum transmitted on the 11th of December, 1868, to the Foreign Minister of His Majesty the King

of the Hellenes. It is indeed unquestionable that the principles of international law oblige Greece, like all other nations, not to allow that bands should be recruited on her territory, or that vessels should be armed in her ports to attack a neighbouring State."

The Plenipotentiary of Turkey incidentally asks whether it was allowable for Greece to act as she did in the affair of Crete.

The Plenipotentiary of France observes that the Conference purposely decided that it was expedient not to involve itself in an interpretation of the Hellenic laws, and that such a mode of proceeding would have inconveniences which naturally occur to the mind.

The Chevalier Nigra thinks that it is advantageous for Turkey, without entering into an examination of local law which can be revoked to take her stand on international law which is permanent.

After these observations the first paragraph of the draft of Declaration is adopted.

The Marquis de Lavalette reads the second paragraph as follows:—

"Persuaded, moreover, that the Cabinet of Athens could not misunderstand the thought which suggests this view to the three Courts protectors of Greece, and to all the other Powers signatories of the Treaty of 1856, the Conference declares that the Hellenic Government is bound to observe in its relations with Turkey the rules of conduct common to all Governments, and thus to satisfy the claims put forward by the Sublime Porte in respect to the past, by reassuring her at the same time with regard to the future.

"Greece ought, therefore, in future to abstain from favouring or tolerating the formation on her territory, of any armed band with a view to an aggression against Turkey, and ought to take the necessary measures to prevent the armament in her ports of vessels intended to succour under any form whatever any attempt at insurrection in the possessions of His Majesty the Sultan."

Upon the observations of several Plenipotentiaries the second part of this paragraph is modified as follows:—

"Greece ought, therefore, in future to abstain from favouring or tolerating :

"1. The formation on her territory of any armed band with a view to an aggression against Turkey.

"2. The armament in her ports of vessels intended to succour under any form whatever any attempt at insurrection in the possessions of His Majesty the Sultan."

The Marquis de Lavalette continues the reading of his draft, and proposes the following text on the subject of the repatriation of the Cretans:—

"With regard to the demands of the Porte relative to the repatriation of Turkish subjects who have taken refuge on Hellenic territory, the Conference takes note of the declarations made by the Cabinet of Athens in its notes of the 9th and 13th of December, and is convinced that it will, as far as depends upon it, be ready to facilitate the departure of the Candiot families who may wish to return to their country."

This paragraph is adopted with the substitution of the words "Cretan emigrants," for the words "Turkish subjects."

The following paragraph is as follows:—

"As to the private losses sustained by Ottoman subjects, the Hellenic Government in no way contesting the right of Turkey to endeavour to obtain by legal means the compensation which may be due, and Turkey accepting on her side the jurisdiction of the Greek Tribunals, the Plenipotentiaries do not think that they ought to enter upon an examination of the facts, and are of opinion that the Cabinet of Athens ought to neglect no legal means to enable justice to be done in due course."

This text not having given rise to any observation, the Plenipotentiary of France concludes as follows the reading of his draft:—

"The Conference cannot doubt that in presence of the unanimous expression of the opinion of the Plenipotentiaries on the questions submitted to their examination, the Hellenic Government will hasten to conform its acts to the principles which have just been stated, and that the grievances as set forth in the ultimatum of the Porte will by the very fact be definitively removed.

"This declaration shall be made known without delay to the Cabinet of Athens, and the Plenipotentiaries are convinced that the Sublime Porte will forego carrying out the measures announced by her as intended to follow upon the rupture of diplomatic relations, if, in a communication notified to the Cabinets, Greece defers to the opinion expressed by the Conference.

"The Plenipotentiaries appealing, then, to the same sentiments of conciliation and peace which animate the Courts whose Representatives they are, express the hope that the two Governments will not hesitate to renew their relations, and thus to efface, in the common interest of their subjects, every trace of the disagreement which led to the assembling of the Conference."

Prince Metternich proposes that a time should be fixed for Greece to make known if she undertakes to conform to the Declaration which will be transmitted to her.

The French Plenipotentiary supports this proposal, which appears to him of equal moment to the two parties, and he thinks that the time, to which they should, moreover, carefully avoid giving a threatening character, might commence from the day of the delivery of the Declaration into the hands of the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Chevalier Nigra considers it essential that Turkey should first of all adhere to the Declaration, and this she could do by reproducing the terms of that document, that is to say, by declaring that she will forego following out the measures involved in the refusal of the ultimatum, if Greece defers to the opinion expressed by the Conference.

The Turkish Ambassador expresses the hope that if Greece undertakes henceforth to observe the prescriptions of international law, the Porte will make no objection to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations; but he does not see the necessity of making at present on a declaration this subject.

The French Plenipotentiary states that the only question now is to determine in what terms and in what space of time it would be necessary that the Hellenic Government should answer, so that the Porte might withdraw the measures resulting from its ultimatum.

The Chevalier Nigra is of opinion that the Declaration ought to be made known to the Hellenic Government by a despatch from the President of the Conference. This despatch should clearly point out to the Cabinet of Athens its answer, which should consist of a pure and simple acceptance.

Count Stackelberg approves this mode of proceeding; he thinks that fixing a space of time in the Declaration would give to it an imperative character which it ought not to assume, and that it would suffice to mention the time in the despatch which the President will address to the Hellenic Government in the name of the Conference, the terms of which could be discussed and agreed upon by common assent.

The Marquis de Lavalette says, that he is ready to conform to the intentions of the Conference.

At the moment when the sitting was about to rise, the French Plenipotentiary receives communication of an autographic and unsigned document, entitled "Memorandum on the Greco-Turk Conflict," which was transmitted to him by the Greek Minister at Paris. After having perused this document, as well as its inclosures, and having read to the Conference the principal passages of it, the Marquis de Lavalette proposes, in order to facilitate the study of it, to have copies distributed to each of the Plenipotentiaries, who will thus be better able to appreciate its reasoning.

In order to defer to the unanimous wish expressed in the last meeting, that the Greek communications should be received with consideration, and attentively examined, the Plenipotentiaries decide that the draft of Declaration upon which they have agreed shall not be *paraphé* before each of them has been able to make himself master of the import of the document emanating from the Hellenic Chancery.

Done in Paris, the 15th January, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 163.

Protocol (No. 5) of Conference held at Paris, January 16, 1869.

Présents :

MM. les Plénipotentiaires de l'Autriche-Hongrie ;

„ „ de la France ;

„ „ de la Grande Bretagne ;

„ „ de l'Italie ;

„ „ de la Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne
du Nord ;

„ „ de la Russie ;

„ „ de la Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

M. LE PLENIPOTENTIAIRE DE FRANCE ouvre la délibération en constatant que le document qui lui a été transmis hier par M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris, a été distribué, ainsi qu'il avait été convenu dans la séance d'hier, et que chacun des Membres de la Conférence a pu s'en rendre compte. M. le Marquis de Lavalette annonce qu'il a reçu aujourd'hui de M. Rangabé l'extrait d'une dépêche de M. Delyanni, datée d'Athènes le 7 Janvier, et qui reproduit les conclusions des différentes notes adressées par le

Cabinet Hellénique au Ministre de Turquie en Grèce, en formant une demande reconventionnelle contre le Gouvernement Turc pour les préjudices que les sujets Grecs auraient éprouvés par suite des dernières mesures aussi bien que de l'inobservation des Traités.

Il est donné lecture de cette pièce à la Conférence.

M. le Prince de Metternich déclare qu'après avoir examiné le Mémoire qui a été distribué aux Plénipotentiaires, et entendu celui qui vient d'être porté à leur connaissance, il ne croit pas qu'il y ait lieu de s'écarter des principes ni de modifier la base de la Déclaration discutée dans la séance précédente.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre dit qu'il a lu avec le plus grand soin le document adressé hier à la Conférence par M. le Ministre de Grèce ; il l'a comparé avec d'autres documents et spécialement avec le projet de Déclaration. Il a en outre écouté avec une très grande attention la lecture de la dépêche de M. Delyanni, et il juge que les arguments développés dans les deux pièces transmises à la Conférence laissent subsister toutes les raisons qui l'ont déterminé à adhérer au projet de Déclaration.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie déclare qu'il a prêté la même attention scrupuleuse à l'examen des documents Grecs ; mais qu'à ses yeux il y a lieu de maintenir des résolutions qui sont fondées sur une juste et équitable appréciation des questions soumises à la Conférence.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Prusse, tout en témoignant de l'intérêt avec lequel il a entendu la lecture de ces documents, est d'avis que les prendre en considération ce serait rentrer dans la discussion des faits que la Conférence a tenu à éviter.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie trouve les documents émanés du Cabinet d'Athènes remplis d'utiles informations, et il en apprécie la forme modérée ; mais il doit reconnaître que les satisfactions proposées par la Grèce ne suffiraient pas à écarter les demandes de la Porte, ni à conjurer les calamités de la guerre. Or, comme le but de la Conférence est d'aplanir un différend qui menace la paix, et que l'on est tout près de s'entendre sur une Déclaration établissant des principes généraux obligatoires pour la Grèce comme pour les autres Etats, M. le Comte de Stackelberg est d'avis de maintenir la marche adoptée, en approuvant le projet élaboré avant la communication des documents Grecs. Quant aux demandes reconventionnelles de la Grèce, c'est là une question étrangère au programme étroitement limité de la Conférence et dont elle n'est pas appelée à s'occuper.

M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie dit que le premier document mis sous les yeux des Plénipotentiaires n'est qu'une discussion de droit en opposition avec les principes établis au sein de la Conférence. Quant à la dépêche qui vient d'être lue, elle ne se borne pas à une justification du Gouvernement Hellénique ; elle accuse le Gouvernement Ottoman. Si ces pièces devaient figurer aux actes de la Conférence et être prises en considération, il se verrait obligé de les passer en revue point par point et d'opposer à chacune des allégations du Cabinet Grec les affirmations contraires du Gouvernement Ottoman.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie résume l'ensemble des raisons qui ont déterminé la Conférence à n'entrer dans aucune controverse au sujet des faits, pour établir les principes destinés à empêcher le retour des actes qui ont motivé les plaintes de la Turquie. Il fait ressortir que les prévisions de la Déclaration s'appliquent à tous les points déjà connus de la contestation, et il écarte les considérations émises dans les nouveaux documents communiqués par la Grèce.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie ne demande pas à la Conférence de revenir sur une de ses décisions et de s'engager dans la discussion des faits, qui a été jugée sans utilité pratique ; mais il n'a pas cru devoir laisser passer, sans les relever, les assertions développées dans les communications faites à la Conférence par M. le Ministre de Grèce, et les observations qu'il a présentées n'avaient pas d'autre objet.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette, rappelant les considérations qu'il a déjà développées à ce sujet, dit que la Conférence n'ayant pu avoir la pensée d'ouvrir en Orient une enquête incompatible avec l'indépendance des deux parties intéressées, et voulant cependant se rendre un compte exact des faits, a dû attacher une importance particulière aux documents produits par les deux Gouvernements. Ceux du Cabinet d'Athènes ont été d'autant plus consciencieusement examinés que la Grèce n'était pas représentée dans la Conférence ; et l'on peut dire, ajoute M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, que, sous ce rapport, le Gouvernement Hellénique a pu tenir un langage beaucoup plus libre que celui qu'il aurait été autorisé à faire entendre si M. le Ministre de Grèce avait été présent ; car M. Rangabé n'aurait pas pu aborder certainement toutes les questions traitées dans les notes communiqués par lui. Le Président de la Conférence croit résumer la pensée de tous en ajoutant que ces communications n'ont pas modifié les dispositions manifestés dans la séance d'hier, et les Plénipotentiaires étant à cet égard unanimes, il propose d'arrêter définitivement les termes du projet de Déclaration.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre présente quelques observations sur le passage du deuxième paragraphe, portant que "la Grèce devra s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer (1) la formation sur son territoire de toute bande armée en vue d'une agression contre la Turquie; (2) l'armement dans ses ports de bâtiments destinés à secourir, sous quelque forme que ce soit, toute tentative d'insurrection dans les possessions de Sa Majesté le Sultan."

Sur la demande de Lord Lyons, la rédaction suivante est adoptée :—

"La Grèce devra donc s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer :

"1. La formation sur son territoire de toute bande recrutée en vue d'une agression contre la Turquie ;

"2. L'équipement dans ses ports de bâtiments armés, destinés à secourir, sous quelque forme que ce soit, toute tentative d'insurrection dans les possessions de Sa Majesté le Sultan."

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie ne peut personnellement que donner son entière adhésion aux principes exposés dans la Déclaration ; il est toutefois sans instructions pour y apposer sa signature, et il se réserve de faire ultérieurement connaître si son Gouvernement consent à adhérer aux conditions qu'elle lui impose à lui-même.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France fait observer que la Déclaration ne saurait être expédiée à Athènes avant que l'assentiment conditionnel de la Porte ait été notifié à la Conférence. Il est nécessaire, en effet, de savoir préalablement que, si la Grèce défère à la décision des Plénipotentiaires, la Turquie renoncera à donner suite aux mesures définies dans son ultimatum.

En outre, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France, dans un sentiment de loyauté et pour prévenir tout malentendu, croit qu'il est indispensable de préciser comment aura lieu la notification de l'assentiment de la Grèce : et il fait remarquer qu'en établissant qu'elle sera faite aux Cabinets, on décide implicitement qu'elle sera transmise aux différentes Puissances représentées à la Conférence.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie pense qu'on éviterait cette difficulté en décidant que la réponse de la Grèce serait notifiée à la Conférence elle-même, et il fait une proposition dans ce sens.

Après une discussion à laquelle prennent part MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie, cette proposition est adoptée, et il est convenu que le projet de Déclaration sera modifié sur ce point, dont la rédaction est arrêtée ainsi qu'il suit :—

"Cette Déclaration sera portée sans délai à la connaissance du Cabinet d'Athènes, et les Plénipotentiaires ont la conviction que la Sublime Porte renoncera à donner suite aux mesures annoncées comme devant être la conséquence de la rupture des relations diplomatiques, si, dans une communication notifiée à la Conférence, le Gouvernement Hellénique défère à l'opinion émise par elle."

La discussion étant épuisée au sujet du projet de Déclaration, les Plénipotentiaires tombent d'accord pour le parapher immédiatement *ne varietur*.

La Conférence s'occupe ensuite de la rédaction de la dépêche par laquelle M. le Plénipotentiaire de France fera parvenir à Athènes la Déclaration aussitôt que l'adhésion de la Turquie sera officiellement connue. On convient qu'un projet sera présenté à la prochaine séance, et sur la proposition de M. le Chevalier Nigra, on décide que la communication sera faite directement par M. le Président de la Conférence à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Grèce, et sera appuyée à Athènes par les Représentants de l'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande Bretagne, de l'Italie, de la Prusse, et de la Russie.

Fait à Paris, le 16 Janvier, 1869.

(Suivent les signatures.)

(Translation.)

Present:

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

"	"	France ;
"	"	Great Britain ;
"	"	Italy ;
"	"	Prussia and the North German Confédération ;
"	"	Russia ;
"	"	Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE French Plenipotentiary opens the discussion by stating that the Declaration which was transmitted to him yesterday by the Greek Minister at Paris, had been distri-

buted as agreed upon at yesterday's sitting, and that each member of the Conference has been able to make himself acquainted with it. The Marquis de Lavalette announces that he received yesterday from M. Rangabé an extract of a despatch of M. Delyanni, dated Athens, the 7th January, recapitulating the substance of the different notes addressed by the Hellenic Cabinet to the Turkish Minister in Greece, and forming a counter-demand against the Turkish Government for the injuries sustained by Greek subjects in consequence of the recent measures, as well as by the non-observance of Treaties.

This document is read to the Conference.

Prince Metternich states, that after having examined the Memorandum which was distributed among the Plenipotentiaries, and heard the one just communicated to them, he does not think there is any occasion for them to depart from the principles, or to modify the basis of the Declaration discussed at the preceding sitting.

The English Plenipotentiary says, that he has read with the greatest care the document addressed yesterday to the Conference by the Greek Minister; he has compared it with other documents, and especially with the draft of Declaration. He has, besides, listened with the greatest attention to the reading of the despatch of M. Delyanni, and he considers that the arguments expounded in the two documents transmitted to the Conference do not interfere with the reasons which made him resolve to adhere to the draft of Declaration.

The Italian Plenipotentiary states that he has given the same careful attention to the examination of the Greek documents; but that, in his opinion, there is ground for maintaining resolutions which are founded on a just and equitable appreciation of the questions submitted to the Conference.

The Prussian Plenipotentiary, while expressing the interest with which he has listened to the reading of these documents, is of opinion that taking them into consideration would be to enter into the discussion of facts which the Conference has made a point of avoiding.

The Russian Plenipotentiary considers that the documents emanating from the Cabinet of Athens are full of useful information, and he appreciates their moderate tone; but he must admit that the satisfaction proposed by Greece would not be sufficient to meet the demands of the Porte nor to ward off the calamities of war. But, as it is the aim of the Conference to settle a misunderstanding which threatens peace, and as they have nearly agreed upon a Declaration laying down general principles binding on Greece as well as other States, Count Stackelberg is of opinion that the course adopted should be maintained by approving the draft prepared before the communication of the Greek documents. With respect to the counter-demands of Greece, that is a question foreign to the narrowly limited programme of the Conference, and which it is not called upon to consider.

The Turkish Ambassador says that the first document laid before the Plenipotentiaries is only a discussion of the law in opposition to the principles laid down by the Conference. With respect to the despatch which has just been read, it does not confine itself to a justification of the Greek Government, but brings accusations against the Ottoman Government. If these documents were to figure in the acts of the Conference, and to be taken into consideration, he would find himself compelled to pass them in review, point by point, and to oppose to each allegation of the Greek Cabinet the contrary statements of the Ottoman Government.

The Italian Plenipotentiary sums up the whole of the reasons which have determined the Conference to enter into no discussion on the subject of facts, so as to establish principles designed to prevent a recurrence of the acts which have given rise to the complaints of Turkey. He shows that the provisions of the Declaration apply to all the points already known of the dispute, and he dismisses the considerations put forth in the new documents communicated by Greece.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary does not ask the Conference to retract any one of its decisions and to enter into a discussion of facts which has been considered of no practical use, but he did not consider it his duty to pass over without comment the assertions put forward in the communications made to the Conference by the Greek Minister, and the observations which he made had no other object.

The Marquis de Lavalette, recalling the views which he had already developed on this subject, says that the Conference having no idea of opening in the East an inquiry incompatible with the independence of the two parties concerned, and nevertheless wishing to be perfectly acquainted with the facts, was bound to attach particular importance to the documents produced by the two Governments. Those of the Cabinet of Athens have been still more conscientiously examined, as Greece was not represented in the Conference; and it may be said, adds the French Plenipotentiary, that under this head the Hellenic Government has been able to hold a language much more free than that

which it would have been authorized to use if the Greek Minister had been present, for M. Rangabé would certainly have been unable to touch upon all the questions treated of in the notes communicated by him. The President of the Conference believes that he expresses the general view when he adds that these communications have not modified the dispositions manifested at yesterday's sitting; and the Plenipotentiaries being unanimous on this point, he proposes to fix definitely the terms of the Draft of Declaration. The English Plenipotentiary offers some remarks on the passage of the second section, which states that "Greece ought in future to abstain from favouring or tolerating (1) the formation on her territory of any armed band with a view to an aggression against Turkey; (2) the armament in her ports of vessels intended to succour, under any form whatever, any attempt at insurrection in the possessions of His Majesty the Sultan."

On the request of Lord Lyons the following alteration is adopted:—

"Greece ought therefore to abstain in future from favouring or tolerating:

"1. The formation on her territory of any band recruited with a view to an aggression against Turkey.

"2. The equipment in her ports of armed vessels intended to succour, under any form whatever, any attempt at insurrection in the possessions of His Majesty the Sultan."

The Turkish Plenipotentiary can personally only give his entire support to the principle set forth in the Declaration, he is, however, without instructions to sign it, and he reserves to himself to make known subsequently if his Government consent to adhere to the conditions which it imposes on them.

The French Plenipotentiary observes that the Declaration ought not to be forwarded to Athens before the conditional assent of the Porte has been notified to the Conference. It is necessary, indeed, first to know that, if Greece defers to the decision of the Plenipotentiaries, Turkey will forego carrying out the measures set forth in her ultimatum.

Moreover, the French Plenipotentiary from a feeling of honour, and to prevent any misunderstanding, thinks that it is indispensable to define how the notification of the assent of Greece shall take place, and he remarks that by laying down that it shall be made to the Cabinets, it is implicitly decided that it shall be transmitted to the various Powers represented in the Conference.

The Italian Plenipotentiary thinks that this difficulty would be avoided by deciding that the answer of Greece should be notified to the Conference itself, and he makes a proposal in this sense.

After a discussion, in which the Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia take part, this proposal is adopted, and it is agreed that the Draft of Declaration shall be modified on this point, the wording of which is decided upon as follows:—

"This Declaration shall be made known without delay to the Cabinet of Athens, and the Plenipotentiaries are convinced that the Sublime Porte will forego carrying out the measures announced as intended to follow upon the rupture of diplomatic relations if in a communication notified to the Conference the Hellenic Government defers to the opinion expressed by it."

The debate being exhausted with regard to the Draft of Declaration, the Plenipotentiaries agree to *parapher* it immediately, *ne varietur*.

The Conference then occupies itself with the composition of the despatch in which the French Plenipotentiary is to transmit the Declaration to Athens as soon as the adhesion of Turkey is officially known. It is agreed that a Draft shall be presented at the next sitting, and, on the proposal of Chevalier Nigra, it is decided that the communication shall be made directly by the President of the Conference to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, and shall be supported at Athens by the Representatives of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia.

Done at Paris, 16th January, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

No. 164.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 28.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 19, 1869.

BY my despatch of the 22nd ultimo I informed your Lordship that it was supposed that a large number of Greek vessels had obtained Russian papers, and that

General Ignatieff had assured me that up to that time only two or three had in reality got them.

From the best information I have been able to obtain, the number to which Russian papers have now been granted is between forty and fifty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 165.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 29.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 20, 1869.

YOUR Lordship's two telegrams of the 10th instant, directing me to support the representations which the French Minister at this Court had been instructed to make to the Hellenic Government in the name of the Paris Conference, did not reach me until late at night on the 16th instant.

The instructions to which these telegrams refer were received by Baron Baude on the same day, and were at once communicated by him to M. Delyanni, whilst similar instructions were received by the Prussian, Austrian, and Italian Ministers, and by the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, at intervals during the day.

As it is very difficult to see M. Delyanni, I was compelled to acquaint him in writing with the substance of your Lordship's communications; but on Monday the 18th instant, I was able to speak to him and to ascertain the intentions of the Greek Government, with regard to the Conference; when he authorized me to repeat to your Lordship the assurance he had already given me, that nothing would be done by the Greek Government, whilst the Conference was sitting, to provoke a collision with Turkey.

With regard, however, to your Lordship's suggestion that the Greek Minister at Paris should be allowed to take part in the Conference, he regretted that it would be quite impossible for the Greek Government to listen to this advice unless their Representative was admitted in all respects on the same footing as the Turkish Representative.

However disposed the Greek Government might be, he said, to bow to the unanimous decision of a Conference of the Great Powers, the position would be altogether changed if that decision were taken and were to be intimated to Greece, not by those Powers only, but also by Turkey—that is to say, by one of the parties to the very differences which had led to the assembling of a Conference.

M. Delyanni said, however, that he had authorized M. Rangabé to give any explanations which might be asked of him by the Marquis de Lavalette, who was not only the Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, but also the President of the Paris Conference; and he seemed to think that this arrangement might possibly enable the Conference to come to a decision even in the absence of a Greek Plenipotentiary.

As I had expected would be the case, the Nomarch of Syra still declines to undertake that the "Enosis" shall not leave port until the close of the legal proceedings now pending; when informed of the written engagement to this effect taken by M. Delyanni, he said that there would appear to have been some mistake on the part of the officials who had made up the packet of despatches, which certainly did not contain any such instruction as that which M. Delyanni had assured the French Minister would be sent to the Nomarch of Syra. Baron Baude is naturally indignant at all this trifling, and has remonstrated very warmly on the subject with M. Delyanni. He has now again been most positively informed that instructions have been sent to the Nomarch authorizing him to give the assurance required by Hobart Pasha—who will then, I trust, retire from Greek waters—although I heard yesterday that there is some question of the Porte having directed him to remain where he is, unless the Greek Government will promise that the "Enosis" shall not leave Syra until after the close of the Conference at Paris, the previous understanding being, that the "Enosis" should be detained only until the close of the legal proceedings.

P.S. *January 10.*—By the inclosed extract from a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, your Lordship will, however, perceive that the Nomarch has at last given the required promise in the most explicit terms, and there is now every reason to suppose that the Turkish squadron has left Syra.

Inclosure 1 in No. 165.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.)

Syra, January 17, 1869, 6 P.M.

I RECEIVED yours of yesterday this morning, and saw the Nomarch who promised me to see the King's Attorney, and give the required certificate of non-departure from Syra of "Enosis" till the judicial proceedings were over. Returning home I went to the Nomarch, who informed me that meeting with obstacles on the part of the King's Attorney, he had taken upon himself to write to me as per inclosed copy, and that having done so, if need be, he would take upon himself to stop the departure of "Enosis" till the end of the proceedings. This letter I shall communicate to Admiral Hobart by "Izzedin" to-morrow morning, and I expect Admiral Hobart will weigh anchor and go away immediately, or so soon as the weather permits.

Inclosure 2 in No. 165.

M. Dracopoulo to Consul Lloyd.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Syra, January $\frac{5}{17}$, 1869.

IN reply to the question you have addressed me on the part of his Excellency the Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha, I beg to acquaint you that the "Enosis" will not be allowed to leave Syra before the final settlement of the judicial proceedings against her.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. P. DRACOPOULO,

Nomarch of the Cyclades.

No. 166.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 29, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the two documents communicated by the Greek Minister to the President of the Conference, of which one was read at the fifth sitting, and the other at the sixth sitting.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 166.

M. Delyanni to M. Rangabé.

(Extrait.)

Athènes, le $\frac{26}{7}$ Décembre, 1869.

BIEN que j'aie déjà suffisamment répondu à tous les griefs de la Sublime Porte, contenus dans son ultimatum, comme j'apprends que ce document va être l'objet d'une discussion dans la Conférence, je vais recapituler ici la conclusion de mes notes responsiveness à Photiades Bey, en date du $\frac{27}{9}$ Novembre et du $\frac{3}{15}$ Décembre. Le premier des griefs de la Porte n'a pas de consistance, puisque le Gouvernement Grec n'a autorisé ni toléré des invasions sur le territoire Ottoman. Il a seulement maintenu et il maintient que ses lois ne l'autorisent pas à empêcher quiconque voudrait aller faire la guerre en Candie,—point qui n'est pas contesté par la Turquie. Quelques bandes ont réussi à se rendre en Candie; ces bandes ont toujours été formées clandestinement sur divers points du royaume par vingtaine ou trentaine en chaque endroit; elles partaient pour Candie soit séparément soit ensemble. Dans l'un comme dans l'autre cas, elles étaient, à cause de la proximité des lieux, lancées en Candie avant que le Gouvernement ait même eu le temps de l'apprendre. C'est de cette manière que la fameuse bande de Petropoulaki s'est rendue dernièrement en Candie. Les partisans s'étaient concentrés à Syra, Nauplie, Gythion; un bateau a rapidement fait la tournée; il les a pris et débarqués en Crète. Quelquefois ces projets étaient connus d'avance du Gouvernement, mais la preuve juridique lui faisait défaut. Or, pour prendre des mesures pour disperser ces bandes, pour poursuivre ceux qui en faisaient partie, il n'aurait pas suffi d'établir pour chacun d'eux qu'il avait l'intention de se rendre en Candie, dans le but de prendre

part à la guerre, parceque chacun pouvait hautement avouer le projet sans que le Gouvernement pût l'en détourner. Le fait qui aurait pu légitimer l'intervention de l'autorité était l'entente illicite, la connivence, difficile à prouver dans les cas ordinaires, où l'indignation qu'excitent les méfaits vient en aide à la justice : presque impossible lorsqu'il s'agirait d'actes qui sont applaudis comme œuvres patriotiques. Toutes les fois cependant que le Gouvernement a pu acquérir cette preuve, son intervention n'a point manqué. Ainsi lorsqu'un officier de cavallerie s'étant entendu avec quelques soldats, partit à leur tête pour Candie après avoir enlevé des munitions de guerre, le Gouvernement lança un bateau à sa poursuite, qui l'atteignit, l'arrêta, et le livra aux tribunaux. Deux fois le Gouvernement a dissous des bandes qui s'étaient formées pour faire invasion en Epire et en Thessalie. Ce n'est donc pas sur le principe que les deux Gouvernements ont différé d'opinion, mais sur l'application, et c'est sur ces difficultés pratiques que le Gouvernement Hellénique appuie la remarque, que c'est demander de lui l'impossible que d'exiger de lui qu'aucune bande ne se forme, ou qu'elle soit dispersée si elle est formée, car il arrivera souvent que des bandes se formeront à son insu et qu'elles se rendront en Candie avant qu'il ait pu les en empêcher, ou prendre des mesures contre elles, parceque les preuves lui auront fait défaut. Il a certes le devoir d'intervenir pour faire respecter sa neutralité, toutes les fois qu'il sera en mesure de le faire.

Le second point est tout-à-fait inadmissible. Les bateaux "Crète" et "Panhellénion" ont depuis longtemps cessé leurs voyages en Candie. "L'Enosis" seul le continue, et le Gouvernement Hellénique persiste dans son opinion qu'il n'est nullement un corsaire et moins encore un bateau-pirate ; qu'aucun principe du droit des gens, aucune obligation internationale, aucune loi intérieure du pays, n'engage le Gouvernement et ne l'autorise même pas à le désarmer ou à lui interdire l'accès de ses ports. Le Gouvernement Ottoman a seulement le droit de s'en emparer, s'il le surprend en contravention dans les localités bloquées, et cela en se conformant aux règles du droit maritime.

Le troisième point n'est qu'un prétexte mis en avant par le Gouvernement Turc. Jamais le Gouvernement Hellénique ne s'est opposé au départ des familles Crétoises, ni a refusé sa protection à ceux qui voulaient réellement et de leur plein gré et volonté partir. Il en est de même des quatrième et cinquième points, sur lesquels mes notes responsives à Photiades Bey fournissent assez de développement.

Les Représentants des Hautes Puissances s'occuperont de ceux-ci comme des autres griefs, et le Gouvernement du Roi ne doute point que l'opinion qu'ils s'en formeront ne soit en tout point conforme à la justice.

En terminant, le Gouvernement du Roi soumet à l'application impartiale et éclairée des Représentants des Grandes Puissances Européennes ses propres demandes reconventionnelles contre la Turquie :—

1. Il existe entre la Grèce et la Turquie une acte solennel, une Convention conclue et signée entre les deux Etats, pour la première fois le $\frac{8}{20}$ Avril, 1856, ensuite dénoncée par la Turquie en 1861, et renouvelée le 29 Septembre, 1865. L'Article III de cette Convention porte :—

"Les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent mutuellement d'employer, chacune de son côté, des troupes régulières pour la garde de leurs provinces limitrophes. Les troupes de chaque Etat doivent être d'une force suffisante, et seront placées sous les ordres d'un commandant supérieur, qui sera tenu de poursuivre activement le brigandage dans toute l'étendue de son ressort."

La Grèce a, dès l'année 1855, exécuté cet Article, mais le Gouvernement Ottoman continue à se refuser de s'y conformer. Ce n'est donc point là une demande vague et indéterminée, comme celle que la Turquie fait concernant l'exécution des Traités, sans dire quels sont ces Traités et en quoi le Gouvernement Hellénique y a contrevenu ; mais une stipulation précise que le Gouvernement Hellénique invoque et sur laquelle le repos de ses provinces limitrophes, aussi longtemps qu'elles resteront exposées et ouvertes faute de limites raisonnables, lui commande d'insister et d'en faire une condition de la reprise de ses rapports avec la Turquie.

2. La Turquie, en rompant ses relations avec la Grèce, pour des motifs dont l'inconstance est établie par mes notes responsives, a commis un acte injuste dont elle doit encourir la responsabilité. Cette responsabilité, et la réparation qui est due au Gouvernement Hellénique, doit se mesurer d'après les pertes que les Hellènes résidant en Turquie, navigateurs ou négociants, ont subies, expulsés violemment du territoire Ottoman sans leur accorder un délai suffisant pour liquider leurs intérêts.

3. Les Consuls Helléniques ont été renvoyés brutalement sans aucun égard pour leur caractère. Le sentiment de sa propre considération ne permet pas au Gouvernement Hellénique de les renvoyer à leur poste sans qu'une satisfaction éclatante ne leur soit donnée.

4. Les Protocoles et le Traité de Commerce entre la Grèce et la Turquie garantissent aux Hellènes le traitement des autres sujets les plus favorisés. Dans la pratique cette disposition a été presque anéantie par le mauvais vouloir des autorités locales et par le refus systématique du Gouvernement Ottoman lui-même de faire droit aux justes réclamations de la Légation Hellénique à Constantinople et de nos Consuls dans tout l'Empire Ottoman. Les préjudices graves qu'ont éprouvés les Hellènes à cause de cette obstination manifeste du Gouvernement et des autorités Ottomanes à violer, par la différence de traitement dans l'application, et les Protocoles et les stipulations de tout Traité spécial, obligent le Gouvernement Hellénique de faire de l'assimilation parfaite, dans la pratique, de ses nationaux à ceux des autres Etats Européens résidant en Turquie, sous la garantie des Légations respectives des Grandes Puissances à Constantinople, l'objet de la 4ème condition qu'il met à la reprise de ses rapports avec le Gouvernement de l'Empire voisin.

(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 26, 1868
January 7, 1868

ALTHOUGH I have already made a sufficient reply to all the grievances of the Sublime Porte mentioned in its ultimatum, yet, since I learn that that document will be the subject of a discussion at the Conference, I shall here recapitulate the summary of my notes replying to Photiades Bey, dated the ^{27th November} 19th December and the ^{15th} 3th December. The first of the Porte's grievances has no foundation, since the Greek Government neither authorized nor tolerated the invasions of Ottoman territory. They only maintained, as they still do, that their laws do not permit them to hinder any one desiring to take part in the war in Candia,—a point not contested by Turkey. Some bands succeeded in reaching Candia; those bands were always clandestinely formed at different points of the Empire by twenties and thirties; they embarked for Crete either separately or in a body. In either case, in consequence of the short distance between the places, they were landed in Candia before the Government had time even to hear of it. In this way the celebrated band of Petropoulaki recently reached Crete. The members of it had assembled at Syra, Nauplia, and Gythion; a vessel coasted quickly from place to place, took them on board, and disembarked them in Crete. Sometimes these schemes were known to the Government beforehand; but no legal proof could be adduced. But, in order to be able to take measures to disperse these bands and to prosecute those who formed them, it would not have sufficed to establish the fact that each of them intended to embark for Candia with the object of taking part in the war, because each one might openly avow his intention without the Government being authorized to forbid it. The fact which could have legalized the interference of the authorities would have been an illicit understanding or connivance, difficult to prove in ordinary cases, even where indignation, excited by the misdeeds, comes to the assistance of justice; but almost impossible in the case of actions which are applauded as patriotic works. Every time, however, that the Government has been able to establish such proof, their interference has not been found wanting. Thus, when a cavalry officer, having a secret understanding with some of his men, embarked at their head for Candia, after seizing ammunition, the Government sent a vessel in pursuit, which captured him and gave him up to justice. Twice the Government has dissolved bands which were formed for the invasion of Epirus and Thessaly. It is not, then, as to the principle that the two Governments have disagreed, but as to the application of it; and it is of these practical difficulties that the Greek Government remark that an impossibility is required of them, viz., to prevent any band from assembling, or, at least, to disperse it if it be formed: for it will often happen that a band assembles without their knowledge, reaches Crete before they can hinder it, or take measures to do so, for want of proof. Greece is certainly bound to interfere, in order to cause her neutrality to be respected, whenever she is in a position to do so.

The second point is altogether inadmissible. The vessels "Crete" and "Pan-hellenion" have long since given up their voyages to Crete. The "Enosis" alone continues them, and the Hellenic Government persists in considering that she is in no respects a privateer, still less a pirate; and that no principle of the law of nations, no international obligation, and no law of the country, binds, or even authorizes, the Government to disarm her, or to refuse to admit her into their ports. The Ottoman Government has only the right to capture her, and that only in conformity with maritime law, if she is surprised breaking a blockade.

The third point is only a pretext put forward by the Turkish Government. The

Hellenic Government never opposed the embarkation of the Cretan families, nor did she refuse her protection to those who really, of their own accord, desired to depart. The same may be said of the fourth and fifth points, which are sufficiently discussed in the notes containing my replies to Photiades Bey.

The Representatives of the High Powers will take cognizance of these, as well as of the other grievances, and the King's Government have no doubt that the opinion they will form thereof will be in every respect in accordance with what is just.

In conclusion, the King's Government submit for the impartial and enlightened consideration of the Representatives of the Great Powers, their own fresh Treaty demands on Turkey:—

1. There exists between Greece and Turkey a solemn Act and Convention, which was concluded and signed between the two States, for the first time, on the $\frac{8}{20}$ th of April, 1856; denounced by Turkey in 1861; and renewed on the 29th of September, 1865. Article III of this Convention runs as follows:—

"The two High Contracting Parties mutually agree to employ regular troops to guard their frontier provinces. The troops of each State shall be in sufficient number, and shall be placed under the orders of a commandant of high rank, who shall be bound to suppress energetically all brigandage throughout the extent of his command."

Greece, since the year 1855, has observed this Article, but the Ottoman Government continues to refuse to conform to it. This is not a vague and ambiguous demand concerning the observance of Treaties, like that which Turkey makes, without saying what the Treaties are, and in what manner the Hellenic Government has transgressed them; but a fixed stipulation which the Hellenic Government calls for, and which the tranquillity of her frontier provinces, so long as they remain exposed and open for want of reasonable limits, forces Greece to insist upon, and to make a condition of a renewal of friendly relations with Turkey.

2. Turkey, in breaking off relations with Greece from motives of which the inconsistency is established by my notes, has committed an unjust act, for which she ought to bear the responsibility. That responsibility, and the reparation which is due to the Hellenic Government, ought to be in proportion to the losses which the Greeks established in Turkey, either as sailors or merchants, have suffered by being violently ejected from Ottoman territory without having sufficient time allowed them for the liquidation of their claims.

3. The Greek Consuls were expelled rudely, without any consideration for their characters. A regard for its own dignity forbids the Greek Government to send them back to their posts unless satisfaction be openly given them.

4. The Protocols and the Treaty of Commerce between Greece and Turkey guarantee to the Hellenes the same treatment as that enjoyed by other most favoured subjects. Practically, this agreement has been almost rendered void by the ill-will of local authorities, and by the systematic refusal of the Ottoman Government itself to do justice to the fair demands of the Greek Legation at Constantinople, and of our Consuls throughout the Ottoman Empire. The serious losses incurred by the Hellenes on account of this manifest determination on the part of the Ottoman Government and authorities to violate, by a different mode of carrying out, the Protocols and the stipulations of every special Treaty, oblige the Greek Government to make the fourth condition of a renewal of relations with the neighbouring Empire, that its subjects residing in Turkey shall be on a perfectly equal footing with those of other European States, under the guarantee of the respective Legations of the Great Powers at Constantinople.

(Signed) P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 166.

M. Delyanni to M. Rangabé.

(Extrait.)

Athènes, le ^{26 Décembre}_{7 Janvier}, 1869.

AU moment où la Conférence se réunit pour délibérer sur des intérêts majeurs en vue de la situation de l'Orient, la Grèce ne saurait se dispenser de faire entendre ses vœux et exprimer son opinion.

Dans l'intérêt de leur mission pacifique les Représentants des Grandes Puissances Européennes doivent s'occuper non seulement des droits du Royaume Hellénique, mais aussi des intérêts et des besoins de toute la race Grecque. Autrement, ils courent le risque de s'arrêter aux effets au lieu de remonter à la source des complications sur lesquelles ils ont à délibérer, ainsi que j'ai déjà eu l'honneur de vous le signaler par mes récentes dépêches, en date du $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁶/₈ et du $\frac{1}{3}$ ⁶/₀ Décembre.

En effet, pourvu que l'on réfléchisse avec attention on sera convaincu que le Royaume Hellénique subit plutôt les convulsions qui agitent la race Grecque, et dont la lutte Crétoise est une manifestation, qu'il ne les provoque, ou qu'il n'en est la cause.

Toutes les autres races Chrétiennes qui se trouvent sous la domination Ottomane, autonomes ou non, ont au moins l'avantage de se trouver groupées ensemble et d'avoir le même sort. Ainsi les Serbes ne forment qu'une Principauté; l'Europe a sanctionné la fusion des Principautés Danubiennes; les Bulgares se trouvent sous la même administration. Seule la race Hellénique est partagée en divers grands groupes placés dans des conditions politiques très variées. Outre le Royaume Hellénique il y a Samos, érigée en Principauté semi-autonome; puis Chios et Ypsara, et les îles de l'Archipel, possédant un régime administratif qui n'est pas celui de Samos, et qui diffère de celui des autres provinces de l'Epire, de la Thessalie, et de la Macédoine. Candie elle-même avait des franchises qui lui faisaient une situation distincte.

Le démembrement de la race Hellénique constitue pour elle un état qui pèse trop lourdement sur elle par l'infériorité qu'il lui fait, pour qu'elle ne cherche point à s'en affranchir.

La race Grecque est généralement considérée comme la plus remuante: elle se distingue en effet des autres races par la vivacité de son esprit, par la hardiesse de son intelligence. Malgré cela, son agitation provient plutôt de ce qu'elle n'a pas pu se constituer en commun: du besoin irrésistible qu'elle éprouve d'y parvenir que de l'ambition dont on l'accuse. Qu'on prenne le peuple le plus paisible, qu'on le partage en plusieurs groupes distincts, sous des régimes multiples, et on le verra s'agiter comme la race Grecque, par le besoin qu'il éprouvera de se faire un sort commun.

En remédiant à cet état de choses, en adoptant la réunion de toutes les Provinces Helléniques sous le même régime, ce n'est ni un traitement ni une faveur exceptionnelle qu'on lui accorderait, attendu que toutes les autres populations de l'Empire Ottoman jouissent déjà des bienfaits de cette union. Le démembrement de la race Hellénique et son infériorité politique forment pour elles un titre à l'attention des Grandes Puissances qu'aucun autre peuple en Orient n'a à invoquer.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique n'a que des vœux à former à ce sujet; mais il y insiste, convaincu que cet arrangement est le plus durable, qu'il peut se concilier avec les vrais intérêts de la Turquie et, sous certaines conditions, avec ses droits de suzeraineté.

Si toutefois les Grandes Puissances ne peuvent y aviser actuellement, qu'elles veuillent bien au moins résoudre définitivement la question de Candie, et la rectification des frontières continentales du Royaume Hellénique. Tout autre remède ne serait pas efficace, et menace, nous tenons à le signaler, de perpétuer le conflit entre la Grèce et la Turquie.

En effet, où consiste la difficulté principale du conflit actuel? Un peuple Grec, homogène et co-religieux, un peuple qui a bravement fait son devoir durant la grande et longue lutte Hellénique pour l'indépendance, qui en a partagé tous les malheurs, subi toutes les calamités, qui avait presque reconquis son indépendance, et qui pour des considérations diplomatiques qu'ont regrettées depuis ceux-là même qui les ont faites, aurait été replacé sous le joug Ottoman, s'est révolté, poussé à bout par un traitement insupportable.

Les mesures d'extrême violence auxquelles la Porte a eu immédiatement recours, pour réprimer ses vœux, l'ont exaspéré au point de rompre tout lien avec la Turquie, proclamer de nouveau son indépendance et son annexion à la Grèce. Une lutte d'extermination en est résultée, qui dure depuis deux ans et demi, et dont on connaît les épisodes navrants. Le Gouvernement Hellénique peut hardiment en appeler au témoignage de tous ceux qui ont cherché à approfondir l'origine de cette insurrection, que la Grèce ne l'a ni provoquée ni encouragée. Une fois cependant la lutte engagée, il ne pouvait y rester indifférent, que de sacrifices ne lui a-t-elle pas coûtés, que d'embarras et de dangers ne lui a-t-elle pas suscités; et pourtant il devait se résigner aux exigences de sa position, tellement elles étaient impérieuses pour lui.

La Turquie dans des vues d'un intérêt très étroitement entendu, ne voulait pas tenir compte de la situation exceptionnelle dans laquelle se trouvait le Gouvernement Hellénique, et persistait à exiger de lui une absolue neutralité, une inertie complète; en d'autres mots, comme s'il s'était agi d'une lutte indifférente au peuple Grec.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique s'y est conformé autant que possible, mais il ne pouvait pas faire ni plus ni mieux, parcequ'il se trouvait sous la contrainte des sympathies enthousiastes de la nation.

Telles étant les situations respectives et les opinions des deux Gouvernements, le désaccord ne pouvait manquer de se produire entre eux et d'amener une rupture.

Pour établir, donc, les rapports entre les deux Etats d'une manière qui offre des

garanties solides, on doit en finir avec la question de Crète, qui en est la source et qui menacerait de troubler de nouveau leurs rapports.

Tant que cette question subsistera, la Turquie maintiendra ses prétentions vis-à-vis de la Grèce, lesquelles, ainsi que le prouve son ultimatum, dépassent la limite de la neutralité, telle qu'elle est définie par le droit des gens, et telle qu'elle peut être applicable dans un pays constitutionnel comme la Grèce. Mais quand même la Turquie se départirait de ce qu'il y a d'exagéré dans les conditions qu'elle veut imposer à la Grèce, la situation ne cesserait pas pour cela d'être dangereuse.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait dissimuler que la lutte de Candie a fait naître, et maintient en Grèce, un antagonisme national contre la Turquie. Placé entre les exigences de la Turquie d'une part et l'agitation du pays de l'autre, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne pourrait suivre une autre ligne de conduite que celle de remplir ses devoirs de neutralité, puisque la nécessité lui en était imposée par ses rapports avec la Turquie, mais de les remplir avec modération et d'apporter dans leur pratique les ménagements qui lui étaient commandés par la prudence : car s'il agissait autrement, s'il prenait des mesures d'extrême rigueur, ainsi qu'il aurait pu le faire s'il s'était trouvé en face d'une lutte n'intéressant nullement le peuple Hellénique, il irait à l'encontre du sentiment national et s'y briserait en provoquant un bouleversement national.

Or, ces ménagements imposés au Gouvernement Grec par sa position exceptionnelle vis-à-vis de l'insurrection Crétoise, la Turquie les a constamment interprétés comme étant inspirés par un esprit hostile. Si donc la situation ne vient pas à se modifier, le Gouvernement Hellénique observera la même modération, puisqu'elle lui est dictée par le sentiment de sa propre conservation, la Turquie maintiendra ses réclamations, le désaccord sera inévitable, et de nouvelles complications ne manqueront pas de se produire.

Quant à la manière de résoudre la question, les Grandes Puissances l'ait indiquée il y a deux ans, en engageant la Turquie à se prêter à une enquête qu'elles feraient elles-mêmes pour constater les vœux des populations Crétoises, sauf à les proclamer ensuite et à leur donner leur haute sanction. Leur propre dignité les engage d'y persister après l'impuissance manifeste de la Porte à réprimer l'insurrection et à rétablir l'ordre en Crète.

Mais si, contre toute attente, les Grandes Puissances laissent subsister le différend Crétois, la Grèce ne pourrait sans doute que regretter, dès à présent, les complications qui ne manqueront pas de surgir dans la suite et déclarer que la responsabilité ne saurait lui incomber.

(Signé) P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 25, 1868
January 7, 1869.

NOW, when the Conference is assembling to deliberate on the interests of importance connected with the Eastern crisis, Greece cannot refrain from publishing her wishes and expressing her opinion.

In the interest of their peaceful mission, the Representatives of the Great European Powers ought to busy themselves, not only about the rights of the Kingdom of Greece, but also about the welfare and wants of the whole Hellenic race. Otherwise they run the risk of stopping at the consequences instead of going back to the source of the complications which they have to consider, as I had the honour of pointing out to you in my recent despatches, dated the $\frac{16}{28}$ th and $\frac{18}{30}$ th of December.

In fact, any one who reflects attentively will be convinced that the Hellenic Kingdom rather suffers, than provokes or causes, the convulsions which are agitating the Greek race, and of which the Cretan struggle is a sign.

All the other Christian races which are under Ottoman dominion, whether they be self-governing or not, have at least the advantage of being grouped together and of being on the same footing. Thus the Servians form a Principality: Europe has sanctioned the fusion of the Danubian Principalities; Bulgaria is subject to the same administration. The Hellenic race alone is divided into various large groups, each placed on a very different political footing. Besides the Hellenic Kingdom there is Samos, a partly self-governed autonomy; then Chios and Ypsara, and the Islands of Archipelago, possessing an administrative system varying from that of Samos, and differing from that of the other Provinces of Epirus, Thessaly, and Macedonia. Candia herself had immunities which gave her a different position.

The dismemberment of the Hellenic race places her in a position which weighs so heavily on her, by reason of the inferiority which it entails, that she cannot refrain from attempting to free herself from it.

The Greeks are generally considered to be a most turbulent race : they are, in fact, distinguished from other races by their energy, by the boldness of their intelligence. In spite of this, their turbulency proceeds rather from their having been unable to constitute themselves as a community, and from the irresistible necessity they experience of arriving at that state, than from the ambition of which they are accused. Take the most peaceable nation, divide them into several distinct groups under numerous different administrative systems, and they will be seen to be agitated in the same way as the Greek race are, from the need they will experience of enjoying one common lot.

It would be neither exceptional nor a favour to remedy this state of things or to unite all the Greek provinces under the same system, considering that all the other populations of the Ottoman Empire are already enjoying all the advantages of this union. The dismemberment of the Hellenic race and their political insignificance give them a claim to the attention of the Great Powers which no other Eastern people can assert.

The Hellenic Government can only express wishes on this subject ; but they persist in them because they are convinced that this is the most durable arrangement which they can conciliate with the true interests of Turkey and, on certain conditions, with suzerain rights.

At any rate, if the Great Powers cannot actually consent thereto, let them at least definitively settle the Cretan question, and the rectification of the continental frontiers of the Hellenic Kingdom. We wish to point out that any other remedy, besides being useless, threatens to perpetuate the conflict between Greece and Turkey.

What constitutes the principal difficulty of the present struggle ? A Greek people, of the same race and religion as ourselves, a people which did their duty bravely throughout the long and grand Hellenic fight for independence, which shared every misfortune and bore every calamity, which had almost regained their own independence, and which for considerations of diplomacy, since regretted even by those by whom they were prompted, would again have been subjected to the Ottoman yoke, have revolted, goaded to desperation by intolerable treatment.

The extreme measures of violence to which the Porte immediately had recourse, in order to suppress their attempts, exasperated them to the extent of prompting them to burst every tie with Turkey, and of proclaiming anew their independence and their annexation to Greece. A war of extermination has been the result, which has lasted two years and a-half, and of which the harrowing particulars are well known.

The Hellenic Government can boldly call every one who has sought out the origin of this insurrection to witness that Greece has neither provoked nor encouraged it. But when once the struggle had commenced she could not remain indifferent to it. What sacrifices it has cost her ! what perils it has raised up for her ! and yet she has been forced to resign herself to the exigencies of her position, so imperative have they been upon her.

Turkey, with a view to interests of the most narrow-minded kind, would make no allowances for the exceptional position of the Greek Government, and persisted in exacting from them the strictest neutrality and complete inaction ; in other words, required them to behave as if the struggle were one of indifference to the Hellenic people.

The Greek Government obeyed as well as they could, but they were unable to do more, for they found themselves under pressure from the enthusiastic sympathies of the nation.

Such being the respective positions and views of the two Governments, discord could not fail to spring up between them, and to lead to a rupture.

In order, then, to establish between the two States relations offering solid guarantees, the Cretan question, which is the cause of the rupture, and which would threaten again to interfere with their friendly intercourse, ought to be finally settled.

So long as this question remains undecided, Turkey will maintain those pretensions with regard to Greece which, as is proved by her ultimatum, transgress the requirements of neutrality, as defined by the law of nations, and as applicable to a country constituted as Greece is. But even if Turkey should withdraw all that is exaggerated from the conditions which she is desirous of imposing on Greece, the state of affairs would not on that account cease to be critical.

The Hellenic Government does not wish to conceal the fact that the Cretan war has raised up and maintains in Greece a national feeling of enmity towards Turkey. Placed as the Greek Government were, between the demands of Turkey on the one side, and the agitation of their country on the other, the only course which the Hellenic Government could have pursued was to fulfil their duties of neutrality, as they were bound to do by

their relations with Turkey, but to do so with moderation and to practise therein the circumspection demanded by prudence; for by acting otherwise and by taking extremely rigorous measures, as they might have done in the case of any struggle totally unconnected with the interests of Hellenic people, they would have gone counter to the sympathies of the nation, and would have brought about their own ruin by provoking a general convulsion in the country.

Furthermore, Turkey has always interpreted the circumspection which her exceptional position with regard to Crete has imposed on Greece, as being prompted by an inimical feeling. Therefore, if the state of affairs does not change, the Hellenic Government will observe the same moderation, such a course being dictated to her by a regard for her own safety, Turkey will insist on her claims, a rupture will be inevitable, and fresh complications cannot fail to arise.

As regards the settlement of the question, the means of bringing this about were indicated by the Great Powers two years ago, when they recommended Turkey to consent to an investigation by themselves to inquire into the demands of the Cretan population, with power afterwards to publish them, and to give them their high sanction. A regard for their own dignity calls upon them to persist in this recommendation, after the inability manifested by the Porte to suppress the insurrection and to restore order in Crete.

But if, contrary to all expectation, the Great Powers should permit the Cretan difficulty to continue to exist, Greece, doubtless, could only, from that moment, regret the complications which cannot fail to result therefrom, and deny that she is in any way responsible for them.

(Signed) P. DELYANNI.

No. 167.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 1.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, January 25, 1869.

I HAD a long conversation to-day with Prince Gortchakoff, with reference to the proceedings of the Conference on the Turco-Greek difficulty, and his Excellency expressed to me much satisfaction with the language held by your Lordship on the subject to Baron Brunnow, and with the part taken by Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Conference which he felt had greatly contributed to its successful issue. He said that the Declaration which had been adopted had met with the entire approval of the Emperor; and that he had, therefore, by His Majesty's orders, immediately forwarded telegraphic instructions to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires at Athens to request an audience of the King, and to express to His Majesty the Emperor's hope that the Greek Government would accept without delay the decision of the Conference, and to warn His Majesty that their hesitating or declining to do so would be attended with serious consequences, and expose Greece to dangers against which it would be impossible for the Emperor to afford her any protection; and that it was essential, lest the Government should be over-ruled ("débordé") by the party of action, that no time should be lost in taking the decision recommended to them.

Prince Gortchakoff said this telegram had been already forwarded from Constantinople, and would be received at Athens before the arrival of M. de Walewsky with the Declaration of the Conference.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 168.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 2.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 11, 1869.

ADVERTING to my despatch of the 4th instant, I have the honour to report that the Hellenic volunteers in question, with their chiefs Leonidas, Petropoulakis, Nitza, &c., have come down to the town of Sphakia, there to await a steamer to convey them back to Greece, as already announced.

Several Members of the late "Provisional Government," and other insurgent native chiefs, namely, Kostaro, Goghonis, Veludakis, Siphakis, Morakis, Manussoyannakis, &c., have written to me and to my colleagues of France and Russia, praying that a foreign

ship may be sent to take them out of the island. Their letter is dated from Komitades in Sphakia, 9th instant. I have referred this letter to the Governor-General for his information. There are still about 1,000 insurgents in the eastern districts under Captains Korakas, Sphakianaki, Kokkinis, Lakerda, Trifitzos, &c., scattered over Lasethe, Rihizo, and Mirabello; but I do not expect that these can hold out for any considerable time. Kriaris and Hadgi Mikhalis are also on the mountains.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 169.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 2, 1869.

BARON BRUNNOW read to me this morning a telegram sent from St. Petersburg on the 21st of January to the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, instructing him to send a telegraphic despatch to the Russian Minister at Athens, of which the substance is as follows:—

The Minister was directed to ask an audience of King George, and, in the name of the Emperor, press him to accept the Declaration of the Conference, inasmuch as a refusal to do so would be neither for the interests nor the dignity of Greece, while it would expose her to dangers which Russia would scarcely be in a position to avert.

The Russian Minister was further to point out that if, as was reported, designs were entertained of subverting the King's authority in Greece, the execution of such designs might possibly, under the plea of sustaining the Royal power, tend to establish a state of things which might be repugnant to the general feelings of the nation.

I told Baron Brunnow that Her Majesty's Government would learn with great satisfaction that the Russian Minister in Greece had been instructed to make to King George a communication so likely to produce the desired result at Athens, while it afforded a proof of the identity of views between the British and Russian Governments.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 170.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 10, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that M. Sacopoulo, Hellenic Consul for this island, has received notice from the Governor-General to take his departure hence by the first available opportunity, in company with all his subordinate officers; his Excellency having further intimated that this measure is in consequence of the rupture of official relations between their respective countries.

M. Sacopoulo will accordingly leave for Syra by the Austrian Lloyd's mail-boat in the course of the present week, having delivered the archives of the Hellenic Consulate in charge of the Acting Russian Consul at Canea.

The Governor-General has just publicly notified that Hellenic subjects resident in Crete, being locally engaged in commercial business and otherwise having private engagements to meet, may continue to remain under the protection of the Turkish authorities pending the renewal of diplomatic intercourse between Greece and Turkey; their nationality, meanwhile, to be in no way affected thereby.

A Commission has been appointed to examine into the merits of the various claims of the Hellenes, and reserves to itself the right of expelling such as it may please. Hellenic ships entering the ports of the island will be subject to the awards of the Commission if these are to remain or not, &c.

All Creto-Hellenes, namely, Cretans being Ottoman subjects who may at any time have acquired the Hellenic nationality, may now return to their former allegiance, or, failing to do so forthwith, they will be expelled from the island within fifteen days from this date.

There are altogether about 600 Hellenes on the Island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 2, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a certified copy of the Protocol of the sixth sitting of the Conference, which took place on the 20th ultimo.

To this Protocol is annexed a copy of the letter addressed, in the name of the Conference, on the 20th ultimo to the Hellenic Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 171.

Protocol (No. 6) of Conference held at Paris, January 28, 1869

Présents :

Les Plénipotentiaires de l'Autriche-Hongrie ;
 " " de la France ;
 " " de la Grande Bretagne ;
 " " de l'Italie ;
 " " de la Prusse et de la Confédération d'Allemagne du Nord ;
 " " de la Russie ;
 " " de la Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

M. LE PLENIPOTENTIAIRE de France annonce que s'étant mis en communication avec M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris, il lui a donné connaissance de la Déclaration paraphée dans la séance du 16 Janvier ; il lui a même lu le projet de dépêche qui doit être examiné aujourd'hui et qui accompagnera l'envoi de la Déclaration au Cabinet d'Athènes. M. Rangabé se trouve ainsi au courant non seulement des résolutions de la Conférence, mais en quelque sorte de sa pensée et de ses intentions.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette ajoute qu'il a reçu de M. le Ministre de Grèce l'extrait d'une nouvelle dépêche de M. Delyanni, en date du 7 Janvier, ainsi que la précédente. Ne voulant pas se porter juge de ce document, il propose de le soumettre à l'appréciation de la Conférence. Après en avoir entendu la lecture, MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie sont unanimes pour constater qu'il soulève des questions de territoire dont l'examen est en dehors des limites assignées à la délibération. Sans attendre les observations que M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie se disposait à présenter, la Conférence se déclare incompétente, et décide qu'elle ne saurait donner aucune suite à la communication de M. le Ministre de Grèce.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette demande à résumer les dépêches télégraphiques qui lui sont parvenues seulement dans la journée d'hier en réponse à celles qu'il a adressées au Ministre de France à Athènes dans la matinée du 10 Janvier, conformément aux résolutions prises en commun. Il résulte de ces informations sommaires que le Gouvernement Grec ne croit pas pouvoir revenir sur la détermination de ne point se réunir aux Puissances autrement que sur un pied de complète égalité avec la Turquie. Le Cabinet Hellénique proteste toutefois de son intention de ne rien faire qui soit de nature à rendre plus difficile la tâche des Plénipotentiaires, et ajoute qu'en ce qui le concerne le *statu quo* sera maintenu pendant la durée de leurs travaux.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette s'étant acquitté de toutes les communications qu'il avait à soumettre à ses collègues, insiste sur la nécessité d'arrêter sans nouveaux retards des décisions définitives.

La Conférence, après avoir paraphé le projet de Déclaration délibéré dans les deux séances précédentes, s'était ajournée afin de laisser à M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie le temps nécessaire pour recevoir les instructions qu'il attendait de Constantinople. Djemil Pacha se trouvant en mesure de faire connaître aujourd'hui la résolution de la Sublime Porte, le Président lui donne la parole.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie dit qu'il a transmis à son Gouvernement le texte du projet de Déclaration paraphé dans la dernière séance par MM. les Plénipotentiaires

d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie. Il ajoute que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan adhère entièrement à la Déclaration de la Conférence, et que si le Cabinet d'Athènes, par une communication notifiée à la Conférence, fait savoir qu'il adhère lui-même à cet Acte, la Sublime Porte renoncera à mettre à exécution les mesures annoncées comme devant être la conséquence du rejet de son ultimatum.

La Conférence prend acte de la Déclaration de M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie, et reconnaît unanimement qu'elle constitue une adhésion complète et sans réserves. Il est décidé dès lors que sa propre Déclaration sera portée dans le plus bref délai possible à la connaissance du Cabinet d'Athènes.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie apposent leur signature à ce document, dont les termes demeurent fixés ainsi qu'il suit :—

Déclaration.

“Justement préoccupées des dangers qui peuvent naître de la rupture des relations entre la Turquie et la Grèce, les Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856 se sont entendues pour apaiser le différend survenu entre les deux Etats et ont autorisé à cet effet leurs Représentants auprès de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français à se constituer en Conférence.

“Après une étude attentive des documents échangés entre les deux Gouvernements, les Plénipotentiaires sont tombés d'accord pour regretter que, cédant à des entraînements sur lesquels son patriotisme a pu l'égarer, la Grèce ait donné lieu aux griefs articulés par la Porte Ottomane dans l'ultimatum remis le 11 Décembre, 1868, au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes. Il est constant, en effet, que les principes du droit des gens obligent la Grèce, comme toutes les autres nations, à ne pas permettre que des bandes se recrutent sur son territoire, ni que des bâtiments s'arment dans ses ports pour attaquer un Etat voisin.

“Persuadée d'ailleurs que le Cabinet d'Athènes ne saurait méconnaître la pensée qui inspire cette appréciation aux trois Cours Protectrices de la Grèce, comme à toutes les autres Puissances Signataires du Traité de 1856, la Conférence déclare que le Gouvernement Hellénique est tenu d'observer, dans ses rapports avec la Turquie, les règles de conduite communes à tous les Gouvernements et de satisfaire ainsi aux réclamations formulées par la Sublime Porte pour le passé en la rassurant en même temps pour l'avenir.

“La Grèce devra donc s'abstenir désormais de favoriser ou de tolérer—

“1. La formation sur son territoire de toute bande recrutée en vue d'une agression contre la Turquie.

“2. L'équipement dans ses ports de bâtiments armés destinés à secourir, sous quelque forme que ce soit, toute tentative d'insurrection dans les possessions de Sa Majesté le Sultan.

“En ce qui regarde les demandes de la Porte relatives au repatriement des Crétois émigrés sur le territoire Hellénique, la Conférence prend acte des déclarations faites par le Cabinet d'Athènes, et demeure convaincue qu'il se prêtera à faciliter, autant qu'il dépend de lui, le départ des familles Candiotes qui désireraient rentrer dans leur patrie.

“Quant aux dommages privés encourus par des sujets Ottomans, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne contestant nullement à la Turquie le droit de faire poursuivre par la voie judiciaire les réparations qui pourraient être dues, et la Turquie acceptant de son côté la juridiction des tribunaux Grecs, les Plénipotentiaires ne croient pas devoir entrer dans l'examen des faits et sont d'avis que le Cabinet d'Athènes ne doit négliger aucune des voies légales pour que l'œuvre de la justice suive son cours régulier.

“La Conférence ne saurait douter que, devant l'expression unanime de l'opinion des Plénipotentiaires sur les questions soumises à leur examen, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne s'empresse de conformer ses actes aux principes qui viennent d'être rappelés, et que les griefs exposés dans l'ultimatum de la Porte ne se trouvent par le fait même définitivement écartés.

“Cette Déclaration sera portée sans délai à la connaissance du Cabinet d'Athènes, et les Plénipotentiaires ont la conviction que la Sublime Porte renoncera à donner suite aux mesures annoncées comme devant être la conséquence de la rupture des relations diplomatiques, si dans une communication notifiée à la Conférence le Gouvernement Hellénique défère à l'opinion émise par elle.

“Les Plénipotentiaires, faisant dès lors appel aux mêmes sentiments de conciliation et de paix qui animent les Cours dont ils sont les Représentants, expriment l'espoir que les deux Gouvernements n'hésiteront pas à renouer leurs rapports, et à effacer ainsi, dans

l'intérêt commun de leurs sujets, toute trace du dissentiment qui a motivé la réunion de la Conférence."

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie dit qu'il signera le Protocole où doit figurer la Déclaration, mais qu'il s'abstiendra de revêtir de sa signature l'Acte même qui sera présenté au Cabinet d'Athènes. En agissant ainsi, conformément aux instructions qu'il a reçues, il obéit à un sentiment de réserve et de modération qui lui paraît entrer dans la pensée de la Conférence.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette annonce qu'il se propose de faire parvenir la Déclaration à M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce par le courrier qui partira de Paris, Vendredi prochain, 22 Janvier.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France signale une préoccupation témoignée par le Gouvernement Ottoman, et dont M. l'Ambassadeur de Turquie l'a entretenu. Disposée à se conformer au vœu formulé dans la Déclaration que les rapports diplomatiques ne demeurent pas plus longtemps interrompus entre les deux pays, la Porte se demande comment il sera procédé au rétablissement des relations, et elle juge nécessaire que le Gouvernement Hellénique prenne à cet égard l'initiative. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France est d'avis qu'il y aurait intérêt à aplanir cette difficulté afin d'écarter à l'avance tout ce qui peut retarder le rapprochement que l'on s'est proposé pour but. Du moment où la Grèce aurait adhéré à la Déclaration, la Turquie ayant de son côté renoncé sous cette condition à donner suite aux mesures comminatoires indiquées dans l'ultimatum, on pourrait décider que les relations des deux Cabinets se trouveraient rétablies par ce seul fait.

La Conférence prend une résolution en ce sens.

Il est convenu en même temps que la lettre adressée à M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce, pour lui faire parvenir la Déclaration signée aujourd'hui, contiendra l'expression du vœu unanimement manifesté à ce sujet par les Plénipotentiaires.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France demande que les termes de cette dépêche soient immédiatement arrêtés. Il donne lecture du projet qu'il a préparé à la suite de l'échange d'idées qui a eu lieu dans la séance précédente. Après avoir été complété conformément à la décision qui vient d'être prise, ce projet est adopté.

Sur la proposition de M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie, on convient que ce document sera annexé au Protocole.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette rappelle que son intention étant d'expédier après-demain la communication qu'il est chargé d'adresser au Cabinet d'Athènes, il est urgent d'en aviser les différentes Cours, et les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande Bretagne, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie s'engagent à en informer leurs Gouvernements afin que les Légations en Grèce soient invitées à prêter leur appui à la démarche du Président de la Conférence.

Fait à Paris le vingt Janvier, mil huit cent soixante-neuf.

(Suivent les signatures.)

Annex to Protocol No. 6, of January 20, 1869.

M. de Lavalette to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Paris, le 20 Janvier, 1869.

LES Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856, réunies en Conférence à Paris afin d'examiner dans un esprit de conciliation le différend survenu entre la Grèce et la Turquie, ont profondément regretté que le Gouvernement Hellénique n'ait point cru pouvoir permettre à son Représentant d'assister à leurs travaux, et n'ait pas choisi cette voie pour faire entendre ses explications au sein de la Conférence.

Elles ont jugé néanmoins de leur devoir de poursuivre l'œuvre de médiation bienveillante qu'elles avaient entreprise dans l'intérêt de la paix, en me chargeant, en ma qualité de Président de la Conférence, de faire savoir à M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris qu'il pouvait entrer en communication avec elle par mon entremise. Je n'ai pas besoin d'ajouter que je me suis empressé, ainsi que les procès-verbaux de la délibération en font foi, de porter les documents qui m'ont été adressés par M. Rangabé à la connaissance des Plénipotentiaires, et les résolutions que la Conférence était appelée à prendre n'ont été définitivement adoptées qu'après un examen attentif de toutes les pièces qui pouvaient éclairer leur conscience.

Cet examen impartial et approfondi a conduit les Puissances à la conviction unanime

qu'il y avait lieu de dégager le débat des questions de fait, et de s'attacher bien moins à prononcer sur le passé qu'à rechercher les règles de conduite qui doivent dans l'avenir présider aux rapports entre la Turquie et la Grèce. La Conférence, en un mot, a pensé que le meilleur moyen de prévenir le retour des difficultés actuelles et d'en effacer les traces, était de préciser les principes généraux de droit international sur lesquels les deux Gouvernements étaient en dissentiment, et qui sont ou doivent être la loi commune de toutes les nations.

Je suis chargé par la Conférence de faire connaître à votre Excellence la Déclaration ci-jointe, dans laquelle les Plénipotentiaires ont consigné le résultat de leurs appréciations et leurs vœux.

La Conférence est persuadée que le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait méconnaître la pensée bienveillante qui l'a constamment dirigée dans ses travaux, et qu'il ne se refusera pas à accéder à des principes universels qui, je le répète, sont également obligatoires pour tous les Etats, et que la Grèce peut certainement s'approprier sans qu'il en résulte aucune atteinte pour son indépendance et sa dignité.

Pour que sa détermination, toutefois, ait la valeur immédiate que les Cabinets désirent pouvoir y attacher, il est nécessaire que, dans la semaine qui suivra la remise de la présente Déclaration, le Gouvernement Hellénique réponde en notifiant à la Conférence, par mon entremise, son adhésion pure et simple aux décisions exposées dans cet Acte, et sa résolution d'y conformer dorénavant son attitude.

Ainsi que le constate l'adhésion que, de son côté, M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie a déjà donnée à la Déclaration, et qui est consignée dans les Protocoles, la Porte Ottomane s'engage, à cette condition, à renoncer aux mesures énoncées dans l'ultimatum du 11 Décembre.

Par le fait de l'acquiescement du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique à la Déclaration, la reprise des rapports diplomatiques entre la Grèce et la Turquie sera considérée comme avenue de plein droit au moment même où cet acquiescement aura été notifié à la Conférence.

Passé le délai indiqué, la Conférence devrait, à son vif et profond regret, regarder comme un refus le silence du Cabinet d'Athènes, et ses propres efforts de conciliation comme épuisés.

Il ne lui resterait plus dès lors qu'à abandonner le Gouvernement Hellénique aux conséquences d'une détermination qui serait en opposition avec le vœu de toutes les Puissances en faveur du maintien de la paix.

(Translation.)

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

"	"	France ;
"	"	Great Britain ;
"	"	Italy ;
"	"	Prussia and the North German Confederation ;
"	"	Russia ;
"	"	Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE Plenipotentiary of France announces that, having put himself in communication with the Greek Minister in Paris, he has communicated to him the Declaration which was initialled in the sitting of the 16th of January. He has also read to him the draft of despatch which is to be considered to-day, and which will accompany the transmission of the Declaration to the Cabinet of Athens. M. Rangabé is therefore acquainted not only with the resolutions of the Conference, but in a manner with its mind and intentions.

The Marquis de Lavalette adds that he has received from the Greek Minister an extract of a further despatch from M. Delyanni, dated, like the last, on the 7th of January ; being unwilling to make himself the judge of this document, he proposes to submit it to the consideration of the Conference.

After having heard it read, the Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia agree in stating that it raises questions of territory, the consideration of which is beyond the limits assigned to the deliberation. Without awaiting the observations which the Plenipotentiary of Turkey was preparing to

offer, the Conference declares itself incompetent, and decides that it cannot give effect to the communication of the Greek Minister.

The Marquis de Lavalette asks leave to recapitulate the telegraphic despatches received by him only yesterday in answer to those which he addressed to the French Minister at Athens on the morning of the 10th of January, in conformity with the resolutions taken in common. The result of the sum of such information is, that the Greek Government does not think that it can retract its determination not to join the Powers otherwise than on a footing of complete equality with Turkey. The Hellenic Cabinet protests, however, that it does not intend to do anything calculated to make the task of the Plenipotentiaries more difficult; and it adds that, as far as it is concerned, the *status quo* shall be maintained during their labours.

The Marquis de Lavalette, having made all communications which he had to submit to his colleagues, urges the necessity of coming without further delay to a definitive decision.

The Conference, after having initialled the draft of Declaration discussed in the two preceding sittings, had adjourned, in order to give the Turkish Plenipotentiary the time necessary for him to receive the instructions which he expected from Constantinople. Djemil Pasha being now in a position to make known the decision of the Sublime Porte, the President calls upon him to speak.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary says that he has transmitted to his Government the text of the draft of Declaration initialled at the last sitting by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia. He adds that the Government of His Majesty the Sultan fully adheres to the Declaration of the Conference, and that if the Cabinet of Athens makes known by a communication to the Conference its own adherence to that document, the Sublime Porte will give up carrying out the measures announced as intended to follow upon the rejection of its ultimatum.

The Conference takes note of the Declaration of the Turkish Plenipotentiary, and unanimously recognizes that it constitutes a complete and unreserved adhesion. It is thereupon decided that the Declaration of the Conference shall be communicated with the least possible delay to the Cabinet of Athens.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia, affix their signatures to the document, which is finally settled in the following terms:—

Declaration.

“Justly pre-occupied with the dangers which may arise from the rupture of relations between Turkey and Greece, the Powers, signatories of the Treaty of 1856, have come to an understanding to settle the dispute which has arisen between the two States, and for this purpose have authorized their Representatives at the Court of His Majesty the Emperor of the French to meet in Conference.

“After an attentive study of the documents exchanged between the two Governments, the Plenipotentiaries have agreed in regretting that, yielding to impulses with regard to which she may have been led astray by her patriotism, Greece should have given occasion for the grievances specified by the Ottoman Porte in the ultimatum transmitted on the 11th of December, 1868, to the Foreign Minister of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes. It is indeed unquestionable that the principles of international law oblige Greece, like all other nations, not to allow that bands should be recruited on her territory, or that vessels should be armed in her ports to attack a neighbouring State.

“Persuaded, moreover, that the Cabinet of Athens could not misunderstand the thought which suggests this view to the three Courts, protectors of Greece, and to all the other Powers, signatories of the Treaty of 1856, the Conference declares that the Hellenic Government is bound to observe in its relations with Turkey the rules of conduct common to all Governments, and thus to satisfy claims put forward by the Sublime Porte in respect to the past, by re-assuring her at the same time with regard to the future.

“Greece ought, therefore, in future, to abstain from favouring or tolerating:—

“1. The formation on her territory of any band recruited with a view to an aggression against Turkey.

“2. The equipment in her ports of armed vessels intended to succour, under any form whatever, any attempt at insurrection in the possessions of His Majesty the Sultan.

“With regard to the demands of the Porte relative to the repatriation of Cretans emigrated to Hellenic territory, the Conference takes note of the Declarations made by the Cabinet of Athens, and is convinced that it will, as far as depends upon it, be ready

to facilitate the departure of the Candiot families who may wish to return to their country.

"As to the private losses sustained by Ottoman subjects, the Hellenic Government, in no way contesting the right of Turkey to endeavour to obtain by legal means the compensation which may be due, and Turkey accepting on her side the jurisdiction of the Greek Tribunals, the Plenipotentiaries do not think that they ought to enter upon an examination of the facts, and are of opinion that the Cabinet of Athens ought to neglect no legal means to enable justice to be done in due course.

"The Conference cannot doubt that, in presence of the unanimous expression of the opinion of the Plenipotentiaries on the questions submitted to their examination, the Hellenic Government will hasten to conform its acts to the principles which have just been stated, and that the grievances as set forth in the ultimatum of the Porte will by the very fact be definitively removed.

"This Declaration shall be made known without delay to the Cabinet of Athens, and the Plenipotentiaries are convinced that the Sublime Porte will forego carrying out the measures announced as intended to follow upon the rupture of diplomatic relations, if, in a communication notified to the Conference, the Hellenic Government defers to the opinion expressed by it.

"The Plenipotentiaries appealing, then, to the same sentiments of conciliation and peace which animate the Courts whose Representatives they are, express the hope that the two Governments will not hesitate to renew their relations, and thus to efface, in the common interest of their subjects, every trace of the disagreement which led to the assembling of the Conference."

The Turkish Plenipotentiary says that he will sign the Protocol in which the Declaration is to appear, but will abstain from signing the Document itself which is to be presented to the Cabinet of Athens. In acting thus, in conformity with the instructions which he has received, he yields to a feeling of reserve and moderation, which appears to him to coincide with the views of the Conference.

The Marquis de Lavalette announces that he proposes to transmit the Declaration to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, by the messenger who will leave Paris on Friday the 22nd of January.

The French Plenipotentiary calls attention to an anxiety felt by the Ottoman Government, and which the Turkish Ambassador has mentioned to him.

Disposed to conform to the wish expressed in the Declaration, that diplomatic relations should not any longer remain interrupted between the two countries, the Porte is in doubt what steps should be taken for the renewal of relations, and thinks it necessary that the Hellenic Government should take the initiative in this respect. The French Plenipotentiary is of opinion that it would be advantageous to arrange this difficulty in order to remove beforehand everything which might delay the reconciliation which it has been their object to bring about.

As soon as Greece adheres to the Declaration, Turkey having on her side, and on this condition renounced carrying out the threatening measures indicated in the ultimatum, it might be decided that the relations of the two Cabinets should be thereby re-established.

The Conference comes to a resolution in this sense.

It is agreed at the same time that the letter addressed to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting the Declaration signed to-day shall contain a statement of the wish unanimously expressed on this subject by the Plenipotentiaries.

The French Plenipotentiary asks that the terms of this despatch may be immediately settled. He reads the draft prepared by him, in conformity with the ideas exchanged at the preceding sitting. The draft is adopted after being completed in accordance with the decision just taken.

On the proposition of the Russian Plenipotentiary it is agreed that this document shall be annexed to the Protocol.

The Marquis de Lavalette observes that his intention being to send off the day after to-morrow the communication which he is charged to address to the Cabinet of Athens, it is of pressing importance to notify the different Courts; and the Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, and Russia, undertake to inform their Governments, in order that the Legations in Greece may be instructed to give their support to the proceeding of the President of the Conference.

Done at Paris the 20th of January, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Annex to Protocol No. 6 of January 20, 1869.

M. de Lavalette to M. Delyanni.

M. le Ministre,

Paris, January 20, 1869.

THE Powers parties to the Treaty of 1856, assembled in Conference at Paris in order to examine in a spirit of conciliation, the dispute which has arisen between Greece and Turkey, have deeply regretted that the Hellenic Government has not thought itself at liberty to allow its Representative to take part in their labours, and has not chosen this mode of communicating its explanations to the Conference.

They have, nevertheless, thought it their duty to pursue the friendly work of mediation which they had undertaken in the interest of peace, by charging me in my capacity of President of the Conference, to inform the Greek Minister at Paris that he was at liberty to communicate with the Conference through me. I need not add that I hastened, as is shown by the reports of the deliberations, to communicate the documents addressed to me by M. Rangabé to the Plenipotentiaries, and the resolutions which the Conference had to take were only definitively adopted after an attentive examination of all the documents which could enlighten their judgment.

This impartial and thorough examination has led the Powers to the unanimous conviction that it was expedient to disembarass the discussion of questions of fact, and to endeavour less to give an opinion on the past than to seek for the rules of conduct which ought henceforth to govern the relations between Turkey and Greece. The Conference, in a word, thought that the best means of preventing the recurrence of the present difficulties and effacing the traces of it, was to define the general principles of international law on which the two Governments were at variance, and which are or ought to be a law common to all nations.

I am charged by the Conference to communicate to your Excellency the accompanying Declaration, in which the Plenipotentiaries have stated the result of their views and wishes.

The Conference is convinced that the Hellenic Government cannot misunderstand the friendly sentiment which has constantly directed its labours, and that they will not refuse to agree to universal principles which, I repeat, are equally binding on all States, and which Greece can certainly adopt without any injury to her independence or her dignity.

In order that her determination, however, may have the immediate value which the Cabinets desire to be able to attach to it, it is necessary that in the course of the week which follows the delivery of this Declaration, the Hellenic Government should reply by notifying to the Conference through me their pure and simple adhesion to the decisions stated in this document, and their resolution henceforth to conform their conduct to them.

The Ottoman Porte undertakes on this condition, as is shown by the adhesion which on his side the Turkish Plenipotentiary has already given to the Declaration, and which is recorded in the Protocols, to renounce the measures set forth in the ultimatum of the 11th of December.

By the fact of the acquiescence of His Hellenic Majesty's Government in the Declaration, the renewal of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey will be considered as having taken place at the very moment of the notification of that acquiescence to the Conference.

After the term named the Conference must, to its infinite regret, consider the silence of the Cabinet of Athens as a refusal, and its own efforts at reconciliation as exhausted.

It would, then, have nothing left but to abandon the Greek Government to the consequences of a resolution which would be opposed to the desire of all the Powers for the maintenance of peace.

No. 172.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 3, 1869.

THE Marquis de Lavalette sent for me this afternoon and read to me a telegram dated last night which he had just received from Baron Baude, the French Minister at Athens. In this telegram Baron Baude stated that the King having declared his intention to accept the declaration of the Conference M. Bulgaris had resigned, and M. Zaimis

and M. Deligeorgis had been sent for by His Majesty, but had not yet consented to take office. Under these circumstances M. Baude thought it not improbable that the King would ask that the term within which the Conference required the Greek answer to be given should be extended beyond the week specified in the letter of the 20th January to the Hellenic Minister for Foreign Affairs. The telegram stated also that popular manifestations in favour of war had been made in the streets of Athens.

M. de Lavalette said that he thought we should be very far from doing good service to King George if we consented to make any change in the terms of the Declaration or of the letter which accompanied it. The manœuvres of the enemies of peace and order at Athens would no doubt be encouraged by any delay in settling the question, and the King would probably find it easier to overcome the hesitation of those patriotic men whom he might desire to call to the Ministry if he were able to show them that the danger hanging over the country was so imminent that not a moment was to be lost. If the Conference consented to any change in its resolutions, the Greeks would be inclined to demand further concessions which it would be impossible to grant; the critical state of things would be prolonged indefinitely, and the benefits which the present unanimity of the Great Powers ought to secure might be altogether lost. M. de Lavalette thought therefore that a regard not less for the interests of King George and his subjects than for the dignity of the Powers represented in the Conference required that we should adhere to our decision. It appeared, however, he went on to say, to be held at Athens that as the letter of the Conference was delivered to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs on Thursday last, the delay granted would expire on that day week, that is to say, to-morrow. But the terms of the letter did not necessarily bear that interpretation. The words used were, "Il est nécessaire que dans la semaine qui suivra la remise de la présente Déclaration le Gouvernement Hellénique réponde, &c." This might be taken to mean either that the Greek Government must answer within eight days from the delivery of the Declaration, or that it must answer within the following week, the week being held to begin on Sunday. If the latter interpretation were adopted, the term would not expire until Sunday next, the 7th instant. He thought that, under the circumstances, we could not do less than give to our letter the widest interpretation that the words admitted, and he recommended that a telegram in this sense should be immediately dispatched in answer to the inquiry of Baron Baude.

M. de Lavalette added, that he had already explained the state of things to Djemil Pasha, and had ascertained that his Excellency desired to follow the advice of the other Plenipotentiaries.

M. de Lavalette saw afterwards the Prussian, Russian, Italian, and Austrian Representatives in succession, and made to each a communication similar to that which he had made to me. He subsequently came into a room in which those Plenipotentiaries and I were sitting together, and settled with us that he should send immediately to Baron Baude the following telegram:—

"Dans le cas, selon vous probable, où le Roi vous demanderait un délai, vous répondriez que la Conférence ne saurait y consentir; mais je me suis entendu avec mes collègues pour donner aux expressions de ma communication, 'dans la semaine qui suivra, &c.,' l'interprétation la plus large, et pour étendre ainsi la terme jusqu'à Dimanche prochain inclusivement."*

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 173.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 4, 1869.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of yesterday respecting the resignation of the Greek Ministry, and reporting your communications with M. de Lavalette on the question of granting a further term for the answer of Greece to the Declaration of the Conference; and I have to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Govern-

* "In the event, which you think probable, of the King asking you for a delay, you should answer that the Conference could not consent to it; but I have agreed with my colleagues to give to the expressions in my communication, 'in the week which follows, &c.' the widest interpretation, and thus to extend the term until Sunday next inclusively."

ment approve of your having, in concert with the Representatives of Austria, Italy, Russia, and Prussia, concurred in the telegram which has been sent by M. de Lavalette to Baron Baude on this point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 174.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 24, 1869.

THE Viceroy of Egypt has offered, in the event of war between Turkey and Greece, to put 40,000 or 50,000 men at the service of the Sultan, as well as some ships of war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 175.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 25, 1869.

PUBLIC opinion is daily pronouncing itself more strongly in favour of declaring war in the event of the verdict of the Conference being rejected by Greece.

It is believed that nothing short of a severe lesson will suffice to make the Greeks observe their international obligations, and that no opportunity so favourable for it as the present can again be hoped for.

The different Governments of Europe having in Conference unanimously recognized as well-founded the complaints of the Porte, are supposed to have made it impossible for themselves to take an active part in favour of Greece, and the Turks feel a natural confidence in being able to bring to a satisfactory conclusion a war in which they and the Greeks would be left to their respective resources.

If, therefore, the Greek Government refuses its acquiescence, the effect of the Conference will have been to increase the probability of actual hostilities; for, as long as the opinions of the Russian and Prussian Governments upon the differences between the two countries were undeclared, the Porte felt no confidence that they might not come to the assistance of Greece. Regarding those Governments as now too far committed to do so, the Turkish Government, or at all events the Turkish public, is greatly tempted to take the opportunity of obtaining satisfaction for the systematic provocation which has been so long submitted to out of deference to some, or fear of others, of the European Governments.

When the ultimatum was sent to Greece, the rupture of relations, the exclusion of the Greek shipping, and the expulsion of the Hellenic subjects, were generally regarded as all that would be required in the event of its rejection; but now something more is asked for, and the Porte is being urged to adopt such active measures of coercion as to ensure an early settlement before other and more widely-spread complications shall arise.

I feel confident that, in combating these views upon all occasions, I act in accordance no less with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government than with my own convictions.

The perfect right of the Porte to declare war, under the provocation received, may be conceded without its following that such a course would be either necessary or politic, even though the arguments in its favour may be of undoubted weight. The policy of such an act, as far as Turkey is concerned, turns chiefly upon three considerations:—

1st. The magnitude of the object to be obtained; the principal demands of the ultimatum having lost their importance by the progress of the pacification of Crete.

2ndly. The probability of a blow being struck so rapidly and decisively as to ensure the re-establishment of peace before the development of the complications which will be fomented on the northern frontier; and

3rdly. The neutrality of all European Governments in the conflict.

Whether the confidence felt here upon these last two points is fully justified, appears to me sufficiently open to doubt to call for extreme prudence on the part of the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 176.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 25, 1869.

THE present Greek Government have maintained that although the steamer "Crete" may have been purchased by their predecessors and handed over to a private Company for the purpose of blockade-running, they are not responsible for it.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I was told yesterday by an English gentleman who had just returned from Syra, that the "Crete" is at this moment under repair upon the Government slips at the Royal dockyard at Poros.

I questioned him closely as to the possibility of his being misinformed, but he persisted in saying that he had it on authority which could leave no room for doubt of the fact.

If it is the case, the responsibility of the present Government would seem fully as great as that of the late Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 177.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 27, 1869.

I REGRET not to be able to forward to your Lordship by the present messenger accurate details respecting the manner in which Greek passports have been granted to Ottoman subjects, nor a Return of the Greek vessels which have been allowed to assume the Russian flag; but I hope in a few days to be able to answer your Lordship's inquiries on both these points.

An investigation upon the former subject is being pursued by the Porte, and as soon as it is sufficiently advanced I will acquaint your Lordship with the result.

The number of Greek vessels that have assumed the Russian flag appears, upon further inquiry, to be far greater than what I had put it at in my last despatch on the subject to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 178.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, January 27, 1869.

YOUR Lordship will already have been informed by Her Majesty's Minister at Athens that Admiral Hobart withdrew from Syra with his whole fleet immediately upon receiving from the Nomarch an assurance that the "Enosis" should not be allowed to escape till the charge against her had been investigated and brought to a conclusion.

This result might have been obtained long before if the Greek authorities had acted in a more straightforward manner.

The ground that Admiral Hobart had taken with respect to that vessel was, that she was voyaging on the high seas heavily armed, with a large crew on board, without having a special license, and that, when called upon by a man-of-war, firing blank guns to stop her, she fired with shot into that man-of-war.

He maintains that he was without the limits of the territorial protection allowed to vessels; but he does not admit that, even if this were otherwise, it would materially affect the case, as he considers that a man-of-war may at any time challenge a merchantship to account for herself, the captain of the man-of-war rendering himself liable for any lengthened or improper detention.

If he had improperly seized the "Enosis" within Greek waters, the Greek Government would have been entitled to hold the Porte responsible for the act; but the challenged vessel had no right to fire into the man-of-war upon that pretext.

In making known to your Lordship the grounds taken by Admiral Hobart in this matter, I beg to do so without expressing any opinion of my own upon their legal correctness.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 179.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord, Athens, January 27, 1869.

I SAW M. Delyanni the day before yesterday, and informed him that your Lordship had directed me by telegraph strongly to recommend the Greek Government to agree to the Declaration of the Conference of Paris, which would shortly be communicated to him by the Marquis de Lavalette. M. Delyanni replied, that until he was in possession of the precise terms of that document, he could of course say nothing as to the course which would be pursued by the Hellenic Government; but his language was so far more moderate than it has hitherto been that I infer that he is already persuaded that Greece cannot do otherwise than submit to the decision of the Conference.

I am told, on good authority, that the King has received a telegraphic communication from the Emperor of Russia, urging His Majesty in the strongest terms to acquiesce in the unanimous verdict of the great Powers; and the opinion of all sensible men in this country is so decidedly in favour of concession that I can scarcely doubt that either this Ministry or some other will eventually be compelled to abandon the aggressive policy which has led to the rupture of diplomatic relations with Turkey.

M. Delyanni observed to me, in speaking of this question, that it would be impossible to resume a good understanding with the Porte until some arrangement should have been come to in regard to the faithful execution of the Convention for the suppression of brigandage on the frontier, and the position of Hellenic subjects in Turkey; but I replied that these were questions of secondary importance, and that I felt confident the Greek Government might count upon the good offices of the great Powers being employed with a view to the satisfactory settlement of these matters, provided the Greek Government would show that they were sincerely desirous henceforth to avoid committing any infraction of international law in their intercourse with Turkey.

It is understood that M. Walewski, who is said to be the bearer of the Declaration of the Conference of Paris, may arrive at Athens either this evening or to-morrow morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 180.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5.)

(Extract.) Athens, January 28, 1869.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th instant, reporting that the Nomarch of Syra has at length undertaken to prevent the "Enosis" from leaving port during the judicial proceedings pending against her, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the correspondence which has been exchanged on the subject between Mr. Consul Lloyd and Admiral Hobart.

The whole of the Turkish squadron, with the exception of the "Izzedin," left Syra on the morning of the 21st instant. Subsequently, however, a Turkish frigate arrived at Syra from Suda Bay, with a letter from the Governor-General of Crete, notifying the intended despatch of a further body of volunteers, under the younger Petropoulaki, on board the French steamer "Phocéén;" but this frigate, together with the "Izzedin," finally quitted Syra in the course of the same night.

Mr. Consul Lloyd further reports that, early on the morning of the 23rd instant, the "Phocéén" came into port, accompanied by a Turkish Government steamer, which, however, left again immediately. The "Phocéén" brought about 160 Greek volunteers, including Petropoulaki, Mitza, and most, if not all, the volunteers who had gone to Crete, and also 140 Cretans who have come to Greece to fetch their families.

Even the Cretan Committees here and at Syra have ceased issuing the exaggerated bulletins which they have been in the habit of publishing from time to time in regard to

the insurrection; and most persons now admit in conversation that, for the present, at all events, resistance is at an end. A few native Chiefs, such as Corakas, Criari, and Hadji Mikhali, are still at large; but I do not believe that they are accompanied by any considerable bands of followers.

The Greek Government have given out for some time past that they were in treaty for the purchase of two iron-clads built in France; but it is now understood that they have been forestalled in this purchase by the Turkish Government, and M. Bulgaris attributes his failure to the want of patriotism of the Governor of the Bank, who declined to advance the 3,500,000 drachmas which would have been necessary to secure these vessels, until he was compelled to do so by an Ordinance authorizing the issue of inconvertible Government paper money.

Inclosure 1 in No. 180.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Consul Lloyd.

Sir,

"Mahmoudie," off Syra, January 19, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed by the Nomarch of the Cyclades to yourself, dated the 17th instant, in which it is stated that in accordance with my request "the 'Enosis' will not be allowed to leave Syra before the final settlement of the judicial proceedings against her."

Taking this letter of the Nomarch as equivalent to a guarantee on the part of the Hellenic authorities, I still wish to know at what stage the legal proceedings have arrived, and presuming that, as the principal witness against the "Enosis," my attendance, together with that of the captain and engineer of the "Izeddin," will still be required, I should be glad if you would have the goodness to confer with the Procureur du Roi, and having ascertained from him, inform me when he will again require our presence, and also to state at what precise point the judicial proceedings now stand; and as I am desirous of leaving these waters with the least possible delay, I shall feel greatly obliged by your obtaining for me the information I require without further loss of time.

I take this opportunity of thanking you, in the name of the Turkish Government, for the zeal and energy you have displayed while acting as mediator between myself and the authorities of Syra.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. HOBART.

Inclosure 2 in No. 180.

Consul Lloyd to Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha.

Sir,

Syra, January 20, 1869, 11 A.M.

IN compliance with the request contained in your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, received this day, I have the honour to inform you that I have seen the King's Attorney on the subject of your letter, and that he tells me the proceedings in the matter of the "Enosis" being secret, it is utterly impossible for the King's Attorney to give information of the state of the proceedings at any stage of it, except that, should it be decided there is a case against the "Enosis" to be tried criminally, official notice will be given to all parties concerned wherever they may be, stating the day the trial will commence; it being free to the witnesses for the prosecution who have been already examined, to appear or not. And as the King's Attorney has taken all their depositions on oath, these depositions will be quite as valid as though the parties appeared again in person at the trial. Should there be no trial at all, that is, should the matter terminate here with the preliminary inquiry, the King's Attorney promises to inform me of the fact, and I will of course not fail to inform you as soon as possible. Should there be a trial it will take place at Athens, and be a public one, and the result will be publicly known; and in this latter case I will also take care to inform you as soon as I can learn it.

If I can be of any further use as a medium of communication between your Excellency and the local authorities here, I shall always be most happy to do so, as far as my British Consular duties will permit me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 180.

Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha to Consul Lloyd.

Sir,

"Mahmoudie," off Syra, January 21, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, the contents of which I accept from you, as the Consul of one of the Protecting Powers of Greece, as sufficient guarantee that the "Enosis" will not leave this port until the decision of the law has been given on the charges I have brought against her. I propose leaving here with my squadron to-day. The "Izzedin" will remain thirty-six hours longer, to bring me important despatches which I am expecting from Constantinople. Her staying here, I beg to say, has no reference whatever to the "Enosis."

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. HOBART.

Inclosure 4 in No. 180.

Consul Lloyd to Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha.

Sir,

Syra, January 21, 1869.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date, stating that you accept from me, as Consul of one of the Protecting Powers of Greece, the contents of my letter of yesterday's date as sufficient guarantee that the "Enosis" will not leave this port until the decision of the law has been given on the charges you have brought against her, I beg distinctly to state to your Excellency that I have no authority whatever to take upon myself such a responsibility, or to take any active part whatever in the matter of dispute between the Turkish and Greek Governments which caused the presence in these waters of the Turkish squadron under your command; my sole object in affording lately a medium of communication between your Excellency and the Greek authorities of Syra being to prevent, if possible, any collision or act of violence, which, under the circumstances of the rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries, would be the first act of war, and which I could not but consider as most desirable and most important to avoid. I beg further to state that I have informed the Nomarch of your intention that "Izzedin" remain here thirty-six hours longer to bring you important despatches that you are expecting from Constantinople, and that her staying here has no reference whatever to the "Enosis."

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 181.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 25th of January, reporting the language which you have held with the view of dissuading the Porte from having recourse to hostilities against Greece; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your language.

You will continue to point out to the Turkish Minister that a declaration of war against Greece would not only be impolitic, but unnecessary; and you will dissuade the Porte from relying too implicitly on the continued neutrality of other Powers in a war in which it might engage with Greece, or from reckoning too confidently on its ability to bring any such war to an early conclusion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government approve the language which, as reported in your despatch of the 27th ultimo, you held to M. Delyanni, with the view to induce the Greek Government to agree to the Declaration of the Conference of Paris.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1869.

I HAVE to instruct you to inform Mr. Consul Lloyd that Her Majesty's Government approve the letter which he addressed to Vice-Admiral Hobart on the 21st of January, respecting the detention of the "Enosis," of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 28th of that month.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 10.)

(Extract.)

Canea, Crete, January 18, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Governor-General decided on sending on the 14th, in place of the French ship, the "Fevaid," Imperial dispatch-boat, to the port of Sphakia, for the deportation of the Hellenic volunteers and Cretan insurgent Chiefs to the Island of Cerigo.

The "Fevaid" had no sooner left Suda Bay for its destination, than it was compelled to put back from stress of weather.

Fortunately, on the evening of the 15th, the "Phocéen" made its appearance in Suda Bay, and has since been dispatched on its allotted service.

Besides the 130 Hellenic volunteers, there are some 300 Cretans (Chiefs and their subordinates) who have obtained permission to proceed to Greece on leaving ample sureties with Sawas Pasha for their return to this island within a specified term. These will all be transferred to Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha on their arrival at Syra, to be further disposed of in Greece as he may deem it advisable.

A petition was yesterday brought down by a messenger to Hussein Avni Pasha, dated from Omalos and signed by Captains Kriaris, Hadgi Mikhali, Korkidis, Mandakakis, Parthenios, Peridis, Nicholaïdis, Stamatakis, Skoula, Perakis, and other insurgent leaders from Kissamos and Selinos.

The purport of the document is to move his Excellency to procure a foreign ship for their removal to a Hellenic port.

The Pasha, I understand, declines to comply with this request, on the ground of their being all natives, and not foreign volunteers; and as there is no foreign ship available, he offers to place at their disposal a Turkish steamer to deport them to Greece, on their conforming to certain indispensable conditions for their due return to Crete, such as have been imposed on other late native insurgents who have preferred a similar request. There is every reason to believe that the Chiefs in question will not refuse such an offer, they being convinced moreover, of receiving further lenient treatment at the hands of the Turkish authorities. Many of the insurgents lately in arms declared having suffered severely from exposure and want on the hills, covered, as these now are, with snow, and especially since their supplies from Greece have been cut off by the non-arrival of the blockade-runner.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 10.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that Vice-Admiral Hobart Pasha, with the squadron under his command, consisting of the armour-plated frigate "Mahmoudieh," the "Khudavendikar," "Izzeddin," and "Esseri-Nusret," arrived here this morning from Syra. I understand that before leaving Syra, the Vice-Admiral obtained from the Nomarch and Governor of the Cyclades, a written declaration that the "Enossis," late Hellenic blockade-runner, will not leave Greek waters so long, at least, as the judicial proceedings now pending with reference to that ship shall not have terminated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, February 2, 1869.

IT has proved extremely difficult to procure accurate information respecting the number of Greek vessels that have obtained Russian papers since the announcement of the exclusion of the Hellenic flag from the Ottoman waters; and even now the accounts received from different quarters, which ought to be equally trustworthy, differ in an extraordinary degree.

In reply to an inquiry I made of him a few days ago, General Ignatieff informed me that up to that time the total number that had got Russian papers at Constantinople did not exceed thirteen, and he gave me a copy of the Regulations prescribed for such cases, which he says are strictly adhered to.

I have the honour to inclose copies of the Articles applicable to them.

At the same time the information derived from other sources would lead to the conclusion that the number of vessels was much more considerable than the Russian Ambassador is aware of.

Mr. Pisani, whom I desired to inquire closely into the matter, reports that, upon the first announcement of the intended exclusion of the Hellenic flag, and upon the supposition that the Greek Government was supported by Russia, about 196 applications were made for a transfer of papers at the Russian Consulate-General, which, according to the information received, seems to have promised them very liberally, and thereupon many vessels hoisted Russian colours.

The circumstance attracted notice, and General Ignatieff having called the attention of the Consul-General to the Regulations, the promises were thereupon withdrawn, and the Russian colours again hauled down.

Nevertheless Mr. Pisani states that he has ascertained the number that obtained the Russian flag by means of fictitious papers to be eighty-three in all.

Safvet Pasha mentioned to me that the Porte had likewise been informed of above sixty Greek vessels at Galatz and Ibraila having taken Russian colours; but added that accounts had since been received of their having pulled them down again.

From all this it would appear that the zeal of the subordinate Russian agents in favour of the Greeks had at first facilitated such transactions, which were subsequently checked by superior authority.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have received from Sir P. Francis a despatch upon the subject of which I inclose a copy,

Inclosure 1 in No. 186.

Articles 13, 14, 15, 19, 24, and 25 of the Regulations respecting the Russian Flag.

Article 13. EN cas d'acquisition à l'étranger d'un navire étranger par un sujet Russe, les Consuls de Russie, après avoir passé ou homologué l'acte d'achat du navire, délivrent à l'acheteur un certificat provisoire pour l'autoriser à arborer le pavillon Russe, mais seulement après exhibition par celui-ci des preuves qu'il jouit du droit de navigation

sous pavillon Russe en vertu de l'Article 1 du présent Règlement. Ces certificats sont délivrés, pour les navires acquis par des sujets Russes dans les ports étrangers d'Europe, pour un an, et s'ils ont été acquis dans d'autres parties du monde, pour deux ans.

Art. 14. En délivrant un certificat de ce genre, conformément au modèle établi, le Consulat se fait remettre par le propriétaire ou le capitaine du navire une déclaration écrite indiquant le port de l'Empire où le navire devra être porté au tableau, et portant l'engagement de se conformer, dès l'arrivée du navire dans le dit port, à toutes les dispositions prescrites par la loi pour l'inscription du navire au tableau et pour la composition de son équipage, de tout quoi le dit Consulat informe sans délai le Département du Commerce et des Manufactures, ainsi que la douane de port compétente.

Art. 15. Les certificats Consulaires pour la navigation sous pavillon Russe, de même que les déclarations des propriétaires ou capitaine de navire pour obtenir ces certificats, doivent péremptoirement porter la mention que le navire qui dans le délai porté au certificat ne sera pas entré dans un port Russe pour y être légalement inscrit au tableau et recevoir la patente prescrite, perdra tout droit à continuer de naviguer sous pavillon Russe.

Art. 19. Les papiers de bord indispensables à chaque navire de mer sont :—1. L'acte de propriété du navire ; 2. La patente de navigation sous pavillon Russe ; 3. Son rôle d'équipage ; et 4. Son passeport de douane.

Art. 24. Tout sujet Russe qui vendra son navire dans un port étranger, à l'insu du Consul Russe, et sans présenter ses papiers de bord au Consul Russe le plus proche, sera soumis de ce chef à une amende qui ne dépassera pas 300 roubles.

Art. 25. Sera passible des peines portées aux Articles 1264, 1265, et suivants du Code Pénal, tout individu qui aura présenté de faux documents pour se faire délivrer une patente de navigation sous pavillon Russe, ou qui aura navigué sous pavillon Russe avec une fausse patente.

Inclosure 2 in No. 186.

Sir P. Francis to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Supreme Consular Court, Constantinople, February 2, 1869.

WITH respect to your Excellency's request to furnish you with information respecting the mode in which Greek vessels have lately obtained nationality, I regret to say that I have not been able, with any accuracy, to ascertain the facts. The parties, official and other, interested in these transactions, being naturally anxious not to disclose them. But at the first rupture between Greece and Turkey, my attention was called to reports of an extraordinary number of transfers going on at the Russian Consular Chancery, and my Chief Clerk being at that Consulate on business, informed me that the place was crowded by Greek captains, many of whom he knew personally, as having been Ionian citizens and belonging to our Consulate. From these he heard the object of their attendance was to get the Russian flag. He tells me there were no less than forty of them on this errand on that day. The clerks had been hard at work from early morning till late in the evening preparing the papers. This last fact I have had corroborated from another source.

For a day or two the ships lying at Couroutcheshmeh (a place filled with Greek ships) and those lying in the harbour were observed to be hoisting the Russian flag in great numbers.

This was observed on all hands, and I mentioned to your Excellency what I had heard, but I found you were already aware of the circumstances, and I began to take some steps to find out what was really going on, when for some reasons which I can only guess at, the active movements of the Russian Chancery ceased, and it was stated that nothing but strict proceedings in the matter of transfers of ships would be allowed.

I cannot tell the number of Greek ships which have changed their flag, because, of course, they are leaving the port continually, and most of the Greek craft are of small burden, and attract no particular attention.

If the wholesale transfer had been continued, I could have got some evidence, but I can get none that I can rely on now.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. FRANCIS,
Judge and Consul-General.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, February 2, 1869.

ACCORDING to the best information I have been able to obtain, and which, I am assured, is derived from authentic and reliable sources, the number of passports delivered by the Hellenic Consulate to Ottoman subjects at Constantinople alone amounts to above 21,000 from the year 1853 to 1868.

The price varied from two to fifteen Turkish liras (*i.e.*, 1*l.* 16*s.* to 13*l.* 13*s.*) or even more, according to the supposed means of the applicant.

The same system prevailed in the provinces, but no accurate returns of them have been received.

Although the number given above is not obtained from an official source, the persons who furnished it had ample means of ascertaining its accuracy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord,

Athens, February 3, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Patras, relative to the destitute condition of the Cretan refugees now in Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 188.

Consul Ongley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir,

Patras, February 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, inclosed, a Patras paper of the $\frac{1}{30}$ th of January, in which is an article relative to the Cretans, of which I also send a translation.

Now that the Cretan affair is over, the Greeks seem disposed to refuse assistance to the poor Cretans who are in Greece. It is easy to say they must work, but there are poor women and young children whose husbands and fathers are away to find work.

If the Greeks had not opposed their departure weeks ago, many of them would now have been in Crete.

In the Greek Athenian paper, the "Regeneration," you may perhaps have seen that the Editor, in his remarks on the decision of the Conference, says that the Great Powers themselves, by bringing the Cretans from Crete to Greece, were guilty of a breach of neutrality, and thereby encouraged Greece in the course she has pursued.

Mr. March tells me that the brigands in Acarnania have been committing great atrocities.

Small parties of troops are being sent on towards the frontier by the Greek steamers that leave this for Sta. Maura.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 188.

Extract from the "Germanos."

(Translation.)

THE Cretans resident here have given us to-day another example of their ingratitude, in exchange for the many sacrifices we have made for three years for their maintenance. Neglecting to procure the necessaries of life by labour, and not taking into consideration the pecuniary embarrassment in which the municipality and private persons find themselves in the present critical moment, but, on the contrary, thinking that we shall always be obliged to give food to the lazy, they assembled in George's

Square, demanding by demonstration that rations be given to them. As they cried out against the Government, and against Greece in general, the police, acting properly, arrested the ringleaders, imprisoned some, and ordered the rest to disperse, with continued threats. They are worthy of sympathy for their expatriation, but their demands exceed our means; and in the general misfortune they ought to seek their bread by their sweat and their labour, since affairs have come to such an end that our endeavours, after so many sacrifices, have been rendered vain, and Europe has allied itself with Turkey.

The Government must take measures for the return of these men to their homes, that they may leave us alone to bewail our misfortunes.

No. 189.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 11, 1869.

THE Marquis de Lavalette and I compared yesterday the intelligence which we had each received from Athens, and agreed that it gave us reason to hope that the endeavours of the Conference to restore friendly relations between Turkey and Greece would not prove to have been fruitless.

M. de Lavalette did not fail to observe the statement in Mr. Erskine's telegram, that the Greek acceptance of our Declaration would be accompanied by a complaint of the exclusion of a Greek Plenipotentiary from the Conference. He did not, however, apprehend that this circumstance would be of any material importance. He felt sure, that if only the adherence of Greece to our decision was so distinct as to warrant us in declaring relations to be re-established between the two Powers, none of the Plenipotentiaries would be disposed to take exception to the terms in which it might be conveyed.

M. de Lavalette went on to say that, as I well knew, he had been from the first aware, that to establish even a nominal distinction between the positions of Turkey and Greece in the Conference, would be to expose ourselves to misconception and misinterpretation. The Government of the Emperor had, he observed, been no less willing and desirous than that of Her Majesty to admit Greece on equal terms with Turkey. But it did not follow that because a thing was desirable, it was, therefore, possible. He had found himself placed between the alternative of leaving Turkey to prosecute coercive measures against Greece, and that of consenting to the establishment of a nominal distinction between the positions of Turkey and Greece at the Conference table. He had found the Porte to be extremely averse to all idea of a Conference. The language of the Ottoman Ambassador here, and the reports of the Emperor's Representative at Constantinople showed that the Turkish Government considered that a Conference would be extremely detrimental to their interests, and conceived that honour and expediency alike required that they should be left to deal with the Greeks in their own way. M. de Lavalette did not consider this feeling on the part of the Turks to be wise; but there could be no doubt of the strength and pertinacity with which it was entertained by them. To those who had only a superficial knowledge of Turkey, it might appear that the influence of the Great Powers would be strong enough to overcome the resolution of the Porte; but those who understood the Turks well, knew that the deference to foreign counsels and vacillation which they manifested on ordinary occasions, covered deep feelings of pride and dignity. M. de Lavalette had been himself Ambassador at Constantinople, so had I. We were both acquainted with the Turks generally, and with the men now in power particularly. We knew how determined they were, how difficult to move when once driven to stand at bay. What was to be done? The urgency of the case was extreme: in a few days the Porte would resort to coercive measures which could not fail to cause misery to thousands immediately, and to lead eventually to actual hostilities. Were all attempts to preserve peace to be abandoned? M. de Lavalette had not thought so. He had exerted himself to reassure the Porte, to remove its doubts and suspicions, to calm its fears. He had used all the influence of France; he had even appealed to the personal confidence felt in him by the Grand Vizier, and he had at last succeeded in inducing the Ottoman Government to accept on certain conditions the principle of a Conference, during the sitting of which the *status quo* between Turkey and Greece should be maintained. But the Porte absolutely refused to agree to any Conference not composed exclusively of Powers which were Parties to the Treaty of Paris. In this emergency, M. de Lavalette had with infinite pains effected an arrangement by which Greece would have in practice all the advantages of a seat in the Conference, while the scruples of Turkey would be overcome by a distinction which, except as a matter of punctilio, was merely nominal. He had brought Turkey, as well as

the other six Powers, to agree that a Greek Representative might sit at the Conference table with a "*voix consultative*," though not with a "*voix délibérative*." The technical difference between the two was that a member with a "*voix consultative*" had the right to speak and take a full share in debate, but had not the right to vote, while a member with a "*voix délibérative*" had the power to vote as well as to speak. The distinction was of course extremely important in an ordinary legislative assembly, in which questions were decided by a majority of votes; but in a Conference, such as was proposed, of independent Powers, it vanished. In such a Conference, neither the minority nor even a single dissenting member was bound by the opinion of the majority. In this particular Conference, less than in any other, could there be any notion of deciding by a majority of votes. No active measure was contemplated, no Treaty was to be signed, no steps were to be taken to enforce the resolutions which might be come to. All that was proposed was that friendly counsels should be given, with a view to reconciling Turkey and Greece; counsels which each of them would remain at liberty to accept or reject.

But though the distinction did not place Greece at any practical disadvantage in the Conference, it was regarded by the Turks as essential to the maintenance of principles of vital importance to them. They insisted that no Power should be admitted as a substantive member of the Conference which was not bound, as the parties to the Treaty of Paris were, to maintain the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, and to abstain from interference between the Sultan and his subjects. They objected especially to the establishment of any precedent for the admission to future Conferences on matters affecting the Ottoman Empire, of a Power like Greece, which was avowedly hostile to the principles established by the Treaty. They particularly urged that no countenance should be given to the doctrine that, by fomenting troubles and aiding revolt in the Ottoman Empire, a State acquired the right of sitting upon equal terms in deliberation with the Great Powers of Europe. M. de Lavalette did not consider it necessary to examine the validity of the objections thus asserted by Turkey. It was enough that the Porte held so strongly to them, that it could not have been induced to suspend the threatened measures against Greece unless they had been taken into account.

M. de Lavalette then found himself in this situation, either he must give up the Conference altogether, and allow Turkey to act forthwith against Greece, or he must have recourse to some compromise between his own desire to admit Greece as a regular member of the Conference, and the absolute refusal of the Ottoman Government to hear of a Conference in which she should be so represented. Not a moment was to be lost, as the delay granted by the Porte to Greece was on the point of expiring. He succeeded in obtaining the assent of the six Powers and of Turkey to the admission of Greece "*à titre consultatif*." He had every reason to believe that the Greek Government also assented. The Emperor's Minister at Athens had communicated the proposal to that Government on the 2nd of January, and had been informed by them that they would, according to circumstances, be represented either by the King's Minister for Foreign Affairs or by His Majesty's ordinary Minister at Paris; not a word had been said to him of any objection to the "*voix consultative*." Seven days after the communication to the Greek Government, M. de Lavalette had summoned the Conference, in the full persuasion that the Greek Minister would accept the invitation to take a seat at the Board. It was not until the Plenipotentiaries were actually assembled that he was informed that the Minister was instructed to refuse to attend, unless on precisely the same footing as the Plenipotentiary of Turkey. The Conference urged the Greek Government to reconsider its decision, and gave it ample time to do so. As it did not consent, we had no course open to us but to proceed in the absence of a Greek Plenipotentiary. In this course the Greek Government had acquiesced. Its Minister had, in obedience to its instructions, made written communications to the Conference, and the Plenipotentiaries had, through their President, conferred with that Minister on various parts of their proceedings. M. de Lavalette had in common with me, and other Members, exerted himself to supply the void occasioned by the absence of a Representative of Greece. The Protocols of the Conferences, and especially the final Declaration and the letter with which it was transmitted to the Greek Government, bore on the face of them ample evidence of our scrupulous regard for the dignity and even the susceptibility of Greece. In point of fact, Greece had in all probability gained rather than lost by the absence of her Representative. Certainly, statements were made and arguments used in the papers put in by the Greek Minister which the limits assigned to our discussions would not have permitted his bringing forward orally; and we could hardly have dealt so tenderly with Greece had a controversial discussion taken place at the Board between a Greek and a Turkish Plenipotentiary. Still M. de Lavalette would have admitted a Greek Plenipotentiary, "*à titre délibératif*,"

if it had depended upon him to do so. He could not, however, regret that, this being impossible, he had nevertheless proceeded to hold the Conference. We had now every reason to hope that the acceptance of our Declaration, which was on the way to us, would be satisfactory. In that case, we should have saved Greece from a great and imminent danger, and he should certainly prefer this to having sacrificed her vital interests in order to gratify her on a question of punctilio. We might, he said, in conclusion, listen with equanimity to any complaint she might make, so long as we felt that we had in truth done all in our power to deserve her gratitude.

I observed to M. de Lavalette, that we had, during the whole course of these transactions, so unreservedly communicated to each other the information we had received, that it was hardly necessary for me to remind him that the reports of Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople fully confirmed the conclusions to which he had come respecting the sentiments of the Porte. He was, I said, well aware of the decided opinion of Her Majesty's Government in favour of the admission of a Greek Representative to the Conference, and he knew how strongly I had myself felt on the subject. Her Majesty's Government would certainly not have yielded the point had they not been thoroughly convinced that the only alternative was to abandon Greece to the coercive measures of Turkey, and give up all hope of averting the disasters and dangers which were impending over the East.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 190.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

(Extract.)

Athens, February 6, 1869.

THE new Ministry, constituted as follows, was sworn in this day :—

M. Zaïmis, President of the Council and Minister of the Interior.

M. Theodore Delyanni, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

M. Avgerinos, Minister of Finance.

General Charles Soutzo, Minister of War.

M. Petzalis, Minister of Justice.

M. Trinchetta, Minister of Marine.

M. Saravas, Minister of Public Instruction.

I learn from Baron Baude that he has been authorized by M. de Lavalette to detain Count Walewski for a few days to give the Greek Government time to draw up their answer; and as soon as it is ready, Count Walewski will proceed to Syra in the "Forbin," and there embark for Marseilles by the steamer of the Messageries Impériales.

No. 191.

Musurus Pasha to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 15.)

My Lord,

Ambassade Impériale Ottomane, le 14 Février, 1869.

JE m'empresse de transmettre à votre Excellence, ci-jointe en copie, une dépêche télégraphique de Constantinople annonçant la soumission de quelques autres Chefs de l'insurrection Crétoise.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) MUSURUS.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Turkish Embassy, February 14, 1869.

I HASTEN to transmit to your Excellency, inclosed herewith, a copy of a telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, announcing the submission of several other Chiefs of the Cretan insurrection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MUSURUS.

Inclosure in No. 191.

Safvet Pasha to Musurus Pasha.

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 13 Février, 1869.

D'APRES les dernières nouvelles de Crète, les Chefs Koraka, Criari, Lacada, Sfikaniaki, ont tous fait leur soumission, et l'île jouit d'une pleine et entière tranquillité.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, February 13, 1869.

ACCORDING to the last advices from Crete, the Chiefs Koraka, Criari, Lacada, and Sphakianaki, have made their submission, and the island enjoys full or perfect tranquillity.

No. 192.

Sir A. Buchanan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 15.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, February 9, 1869.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant, I have mentioned to Prince Gortchakoff that you had expressed to Baron Brunnow the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government would learn that the Russian Minister in Greece had been instructed to make a communication to King George, so likely to promote the acceptance at Athens of the Declaration of the Conference, as that reported in a telegram which Baron Brunnow had communicated to your Lordship on the day on which your despatch was written.

Prince Gortchakoff, who was apparently much pleased with your Lordship's observations to Baron Brunnow, assured me that the uniformity of views with which the two Governments are acting, is as satisfactory to him as I had represented it to be to Her Majesty's Government.

No. 193.

The Earl of Clarendon to Musurus Pasha.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, February 15, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge, with thanks, your Excellency's note of the 14th instant, inclosing a copy of a telegraphic despatch received from Constantinople, from which Her Majesty's Government are gratified to learn that the Island of Crete may now be considered tranquil.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 194.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 16.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, January 31, 1869.

ADVERTING to my despatch of the 18th instant, I have the honour to report that the late insurgent Chiefs, Kriaris, Hadji Mikhali, Mavroyennis, Mandakakis, Korkidis, Peridis, &c., having all made their submission, have returned to their homes, without previously being allowed to visit Greece. Hadji Mikhali, Parthenios, and a few others, are now staying at Canea for a short time.

The few remaining insurgents in Retimo Province, Captains Kehaya and Demiros, with about twenty of their followers, have also laid down their arms, and presented themselves to the Turkish authorities.

The Governor-General left for Candia the day before yesterday, in order to superintend matters in that quarter. A division of troops under Mehmet Ali Pasha, has been advancing towards Lasethé; but the late severe weather has retarded operations in that mountainous district, as well as that of Mirabello, where some straggling insurgent bands

are still making a feeble resistance. The only two Cretan leaders on the island, of whose submission no account has yet been received, namely, the veteran Korakas and Sphakianaki; these are represented to have recently escaped in a sailing-boat to Greece.

My belief is, that they are still in the eastern districts, and that their surrender is a mere question of time, and that a very short one.

Tranquillity prevails throughout the rest of the island.

Her Majesty's ship "Antelope" sailed for Malta on the 29th instant, having been relieved by the "Trinculo," arrived from the Piræus.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 195.

M. T. Delyanni to M. de Lavalette.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, February 17.)

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 25 Janvier, 1869.

MON prédécesseur, M. Delyanni, m'a remis la lettre que vous avez bien voulu lui adresser, le 20 Janvier, ainsi que la Déclaration y annexée, en copie, des Plénipotentiaires des six Grandes Puissances Européennes, réunis en Conférence à Paris, afin d'examiner, dans un esprit de conciliation, le différend survenu entre la Grèce et la Turquie.

Le résultat des délibérations de la Conférence a été accueilli, je ne saurais vous le dissimuler, M. le Ministre, avec un sentiment de pénible émotion par le peuple Hellène tout entier, et la crise Ministérielle s'étant prolongée plusieurs jours a fait qu'une réponse n'a pu être donnée, dans cet intervalle, à la lettre de votre Excellence. Le Cabinet dont j'ai l'honneur de faire partie s'est fait un devoir, aussitôt constitué, de prendre en sérieuse considération le contenu de la Déclaration et de votre communication.

Le Gouvernement du Roi a vu, avec regret, que le Ministre de Sa Majesté à Paris n'a pu prendre part aux travaux de la Conférence, par suite de la position d'infériorité qui lui a été faite vis-à-vis du Plénipotentiaire de la Turquie.

En présence de l'unanimité des six Grandes Puissances Européennes, et de votre déclaration que leurs Plénipotentiaires, en dégagant le débat des questions de fait, n'ont en vue que de chercher les règles de conduite qui doivent présider aux rapports entre la Grèce et la Turquie, je m'empresse de vous informer que le Gouvernement du Roi adhère aux principes généraux de jurisprudence internationale contenus dans la Déclaration de la Conférence, et qu'il est décidé d'y conformer son attitude.

En priant votre Excellence de vouloir bien porter cette adhésion à la connaissance de la Conférence, j'aime à espérer que les six Grandes Puissances, appréciant les difficultés de la situation, tiendront compte à la Grèce de sa résolution de déférer à leurs vœux et de contribuer, pour sa part, au maintien du repos général.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) THEODORE DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, January 25, 1869.

MY predecessor, M. Delyanni, has handed to me the letter which you were good enough to address to him on the 20th of January, together with the Declaration, annexed thereto in copy, of the Plenipotentiaries of the six Great European Powers, who met in Conference at Paris, for the purpose of examining, in a spirit of conciliation, the difference which has arisen between Greece and Turkey.

I cannot conceal from you, M. le Ministre, that the result of the deliberations of the Conference has been received with a feeling of painful emotion by the entire Hellenic people, and the Ministerial crisis having been prolonged for several days has prevented an answer being given, during this interval, to your Excellency's letter. The Cabinet of which I have the honour to form a part has made it its duty, as soon as it was constituted, to take into serious consideration the contents of the Declaration and of your communication.

The King's Government have seen with regret that Her Majesty's Minister at Paris was unable to take part in the labours of the Conference in consequence of the position of inferiority which was assigned to him as contrasted with the Plenipotentiary of Turkey.

In view of the unanimity of the six Great European Powers, and of your declaration,

that their Plenipotentiaries, in relieving the debate from questions of fact, only propose to seek those rules of conduct which should prevail in the relations between Greece and Turkey, I hasten to inform you that the King's Government adhere to the general principles of international jurisprudence contained in the Declaration of the Conference, and have decided to conform their attitude to them.

In requesting your Excellency to be good enough to bring this adhesion to the knowledge of the Conference, I have pleasure in hoping that the six Great Powers, appreciating the difficulties of the situation, will give Greece credit for her resolution to defer to their wishes, and to contribute on her part to the maintenance of the general peace.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) THEODORE DELYANNI.

No. 196.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 17.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 16, 1868.

COUNT STACKELBERG, the Russian Ambassador, called upon me the day before yesterday, and spoke to me of reports which had appeared in the newspapers that a circular had been sent to the Russian Representatives abroad on the affairs of Greece, in which the Conference and its proceedings were spoken of in disparaging terms.

M. de Stackelberg said that there was no foundation whatever for these rumours, and that no circular of the kind had ever existed. So far from disapproving of the Conference, the Russian Government had, in fact, been the first to suggest that one should be held; and the result had been entirely satisfactory to that Government.

The Marquis de Lavalette told me this afternoon that M. de Stackelberg had also come to him to contradict the reports about the circular, and had suggested that they should be contradicted on authority. The following paragraph has accordingly appeared in the "Journal Officiel" of this morning:—

"Quelques journaux ont parlé d'une circulaire que le Gouvernement Russe aurait adressée à ses Agents Diplomatiques au sujet des affaires de Grèce. Les Représentants de la Russie à l'étranger n'ont reçu du Cabinet de St. Pétersbourg aucune communication de cette nature."*

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 197.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 16, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th instant, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held to Prince Gortchakoff, as reported in that despatch, with reference to the difference between Turkey and Greece, which Her Majesty's Government hope may now be considered to be ended.

You will say to Prince Gortchakoff that it has afforded great satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government to find themselves in regard to that matter, in such cordial agreement with His Highness, and that they highly appreciate the value of his co-operation in the work on which the Conference at Paris has lately been engaged.

It is always a matter of lively satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government to act in strict concert with the Government of Russia for the maintenance of the general peace; and Prince Gortchakoff may rely on their readiness to do full justice to the friendly feelings of his Excellency towards this country, which are as sincerely entertained by them for Russia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* "Certain newspapers have spoken of a circular which the Russian Government is reported to have addressed to its Diplomatic Agents on the subject of the affairs of Greece. The Russian Representatives abroad have received no communication of this nature from the Cabinet of St. Petersburg."

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 17, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the answer of the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to the letter with which the Marquis de Lavalette, as President, communicated to the Greek Government the Declaration of the Conference.

M. de Lavalette proposes to hold a Conference to-morrow to take this answer into consideration. He is confident that it will be accepted by the Plenipotentiaries as sufficient, and he trusts that the Conference will be able to declare friendly relations between Turkey and Greece to be re-established, and that no further sittings will be necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 198.

M. T. Delyanni to M. de Lavalette, January 25
February 6, 1869.

[See No. 195.]

No. 199.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 19.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, February 7, 1869.

ACCOUNTS have been received of the inroads of two Greek bands into Epirus, and of one into Thessaly, each of them numbering from 100 to 150 men, which had been dispersed by the Turkish forces without, as far as I can learn, having been pursued into the Greek territory.

I have urgently pressed the Porte to send distinct orders to their authorities on the frontier to abstain from every act which might tend still further to inflame the excitement of the Greek people, and might render untenable the already critical position of the King.

I am told that their orders already are to remain on the defensive, but they will vigorously repel all attacks; and whether this moderation would be persisted in if an invasion in any considerable strength were attempted, is more than I would venture to answer for.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 200.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 19.)

(Extract.)

Athens, February 10, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies, in French, of a Proclamation which has been issued by the new Greek Ministry on taking office. It begins by recapitulating the events which have led to the rupture of diplomatic relations with Turkey; and, after mentioning the decision of the Paris Conference, it states that no preparation whatever having been made to carry on a war, which would have been the consequence of its rejection, the present Government has no option but to adhere to the Declaration.

The Proclamation, as far as I can judge, has already produced a most favourable effect throughout the country, and a general feeling of relief appears to prevail at the cessation of the sterile agitation which has so long disturbed the public mind.

The Greek Government have applied to the French Minister to induce the Turkish authorities in Crete to consent to the departure of Corakas, Sphakianaki, and a few other insurgents, who are still in arms in the eastern portion of Crete. Admiral Moulac has

consequently sent the "Salamandre" to Crete; and it is hoped that Housseyn Pasha will readily avail himself of this opportunity of getting rid of the few Chiefs who still hold out.

The Government are no less desirous to make arrangements for the departure of the great bulk of the refugees in this country; but they express a strong wish that, should the Porte ultimately determine to transport these persons at its own charge, foreign vessels may be chartered for the purpose, as was the case before the rupture, and that Turkish ships of war should not be employed on this duty.

The two reserve corps of the army have already been dismissed, and everything now denotes that the Government are sincerely endeavouring to abandon the aggressive policy of their predecessors.

Parliament it is thought, will be dissolved in about two months, and the Government promise, as usual, that the most scrupulous impartiality will be observed by the authorities during the elections.

Inclosure in No. 200.

Proclamation.

Concitoyens,

AYANT été appelés par la confiance de Sa Majesté au Gouvernement du pays dans un moment où votre représentation est absente, nous nous adressons directement à vous pour exposer les circonstances dans lesquelles nous avons accepté cette mission et la situation dans laquelle nous trouvons les affaires de l'Etat.

La voix d'un peuple-frère faisait battre pendant trois années le cœur de tout Hellène, et ne pouvait que retentir dans les âmes de tous ceux qui ont successivement dirigé les destinées de notre patrie. C'est pour la même raison que vous avez accouru nous, en même temps que nos compatriotes établis à l'étranger, au secours de ceux qui vous demandaient aide et assistance, et que des vœux en leur faveur ont été diversement et itérativement manifestés par ceux qui étaient à la tête des affaires.

Ces faits ont fait naître dans le passé des plaintes d'un Etat voisin contre la Grèce, qui était accusée de violer par tolérance ou par des actes la neutralité qui lui était imposée; mais ces plaintes, réfutées chaque fois, n'avaient obtenu pendant longtemps aucun appui sérieux. C'est dernièrement seulement que le Gouvernement Ottoman a cru devoir interrompre à cause de ces événements ses relations avec la Grèce, et pendant que le 4 Décembre dernier le Ministre de la Sublime Porte demandait ses passeports pour quitter notre capitale, la ville la plus commerçante de la Grèce voyait devant elle le Contre-Amiral Ottoman Hobart, poursuivant, à la tête d'une escadre de guerre, des navires de commerce qui ravitaillaient Candie, et bloquant ce port afin d'empêcher leur départ et forcer ainsi par la famine l'île insurgée à se soumettre.

Le blocus du port de Syra s'est ainsi effectué, les bateaux de commerce qui ravitaillaient Candie à leurs risques et périls n'ont pu partir, Candie est restée sans vivres, et la voix de ce peuple-frère qui faisait battre depuis trois ans les cœurs des Hellènes a cessé de se faire entendre. Quelque grand que soit l'enthousiasme qui règne dans l'âme de ce peuple, quelque grande que soit la douleur qui le domine, sa voix a commencé à faiblir, et dans le moment où nous sommes appelés à la direction des affaires elle se fait à peine entendre.

Ainsi, le territoire Hellénique a été violé et la nation entière s'en est ressentie; car la Grèce n'avait par les moyens de repousser cette violation et de venger son honneur.

C'est avec sincérité, concitoyens, que nous vous rendons compte de ces faits, sous le poids d'une grande douleur et en nourrissant l'espoir que notre sincérité fera développer dans l'avenir la prévoyance de nos gouvernants et de tous les citoyens.

Nous comptons, en effet, trente-six ans depuis la fondation de la première Dynastie, et pourtant le Gouvernement Hellénique s'est trouvé dans la pénible situation de subir, faute de moyens, une violation du territoire Hellénique.

Pendant que ces faits se passaient en Grèce, toute l'Europe manifestait son désir de conserver la paix Européenne; et les trois Puissances bienfaitrices de la Grèce, conjointement avec les trois autres Cours co-signataires du Traité du 1856, ont été saisies de l'examen du différend, et sont tombées d'accord sur une décision qui admet une partie des griefs de la Turquie comme fondés, qui attribue la conduite de la Grèce à une exagération de patriotisme, et qui nous impose l'obligation de garder à l'avenir des règles que la

Conférence considère comme communes à tous les Gouvernements. Ces règles sont les suivantes : Que la Grèce doit s'abstenir de favoriser ou de tolérer (1) la formation sur son territoire de bandes formées dans le but d'attaquer la Turquie, et (2) l'armement dans les ports Helléniques de navires armés et destinés à favoriser une tentative quelconque d'insurrection en Turquie.

Cette décision de la Conférence a été communiquée au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce par le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de France, qui présidait cette réunion diplomatique, et la Grèce a été invitée à faire connaître dans la semaine qui suivrait la remise de ce message son adhésion pure et simple à la Déclaration de la Conférence et son intention de la respecter.

Par cette même dépêche, le Président de la Conférence faisait connaître au Gouvernement Hellénique que s'il envoyait son adhésion aux Résolutions de la Conférence et son intention de les respecter, la Turquie s'engageait à retirer les mesures contenus dans son ultimatum, et la reprise des relations entre les deux Etats serait considérée comme accomplie *ipso facto* ; mais que dans le cas où le Gouvernement Hellénique refuserait son adhésion, la Conférence l'abandonnait aux conséquences de son refus.

En même temps, des conseils venant de tous les côtés, et par les Souverains et par les Gouvernements, et adressés soit directement au Gouvernement soit aux Représentants de Sa Majesté près les différentes Cours de l'Europe, ont été transmis pour recommander à la Grèce l'acceptation des Résolutions de la Conférence et pour représenter clairement les grands dangers qui le menaçaient en cas de refus.

Dans ces circonstances, une crise ministérielle a éclaté quatre jours après la réception de ces dépêches. Cette crise s'est terminée aujourd'hui par notre appel aux affaires, et demain c'est le dernier jour du délai indiqué par le Président de la Conférence.

Ayant donné plus haut un résumé exact des Résolutions de la Conférence de Paris, nous ne pouvons omettre que, quelque douloureuse que soit pour la Grèce l'acceptation des deux conditions susmentionnées, elle ne lie pas son avenir et ne combat pas ses aspirations. D'ailleurs, si nous refusons à adhérer aux Résolutions de la Conférence, il ne nous restait plus qu'à faire la guerre à la Turquie ; mais malheureusement, en même temps que nous manquons des forces navales nécessaires, nous trouvons la nation non-préparée sur terre.

Nous comptons présenter à la représentation du pays qui sera formée par des élections véritablement libres et sans aucune action licite ou illicite du Gouvernement, des états détaillés de tout le matériel de guerre que nous avons trouvé dans les magasins de l'Etat et des renseignements exacts sur la situation de notre armée de terre et de mer, ainsi que sur nos autres moyens de guerre. Nous nous bornons pour le moment à déclarer que, d'après notre avis, nous aurions trahi les intérêts de notre chère patrie si éprouvée, si nous l'aurions exposé à une guerre dans un moment où l'armée se trouve incomplète et non-préparée, et la nation ne pourrait s'armer faute de moyens, et l'Europe entière se montre hostile à toute entreprise qui troublerait la paix.

Notre opinion et notre action ne pouvaient donc être douteuses. En présence de maux aussi imminents et aussi inévitables, nous ne pouvions hésiter à faire connaître notre adhésion aux résolutions de la Conférence de Paris.

Notre devoir envers la patrie nous a obligés d'accepter, au milieu de circonstances extrêmement difficiles, la mission dont nous avons été chargés par le Roi. Notre devoir envers la patrie nous impose de répondre ainsi à la Conférence de Paris, quelle que soit la douleur que cette réponse fait éprouver à nos âmes. Le même devoir exige que nous accompagnions notre réponse d'un exposé des droits et des réclamations de la Grèce, et nous ne saurions manquer à ce devoir.

Mettant notre confiance sur le Souverain qui a été élu par les libres suffrages des Hellènes, qui respecte leurs libertés et attache le plus grand prix à la gloire et à la grandeur de notre patrie, implorons tous l'assistance du Tout-Puissant en faveur de la Grèce et faisons des vœux pour que les maux présents deviennent des enseignements pour l'avenir.

Athènes, le 25 Janvier, 1869, v.s.

(Signé)

TH. A. ZAIMI, *Président.*
THEODORE DELYANNI.
A. PETSALIS.
D. SARAVAS.
A. AUGERINOS.
S. SOUTZO.
D. TRIGHETAS.

(Translation.)

Fellow-citizens,

HAVING been summoned by the confidence of His Majesty to the government of the country, at a moment when you are unrepresented, we address ourselves directly to you, in order to set forth the circumstances under which we have accepted this task, and the position in which we find the affairs of the State situated.

The voice of a sister-people had for three years caused the heart of every Greek to beat, and could not help finding its echo in the souls of all who have successively guided the destinies of our country. It was for that reason, too, that you all, as well as our fellow countrymen residing abroad, flew to succour those who were calling upon you for aid and assistance, and that goodwill towards them has been in different ways and repeatedly manifested by those who have been at the head of affairs.

These events in days gone by gave rise to complaints on the part of a neighbouring State against Greece, who was accused of having, by toleration or by deed, violated the neutrality imposed upon her; but these complaints, which were every time refuted, had not, for a long time, obtained any real support. It is only recently that the Ottoman Government has thought proper to break off its relations with Greece on account of these events, and whilst, on the 4th December last, the Turkish Minister was asking for his passports to enable him to quit our capital, the most commercial city of Greece saw before her walls the Ottoman Rear-Admiral Hobart, at the head of a squadron of men-of-war, pursuing some merchant-vessels which were conveying provisions to Crete, and blockading her port in order to prevent their sailing, and thus by famine to force the revolted island to submission.

The blockade of the port of Syra was thus effected, the merchantmen, which were victualling Candia at their own risk and peril, could not sail, Candia remained without provisions, and the voice of that sister-people, which had for three years caused the hearts of the Greeks to beat, ceased to be heard. However great be the enthusiasm which exists in the souls of that people, however great be the sorrow which oppresses them, their voice has begun to grow feeble, and just now, when we have been summoned to the direction of affairs, it is scarcely heard.

Thus, Greek territory has been violated, and the whole nation has felt it; for Greece had not the means of resisting that violation, and of avenging her honour.

It is with sincerity, fellow-citizens, that we render to you an account of these events, under the pressure of great sorrow, and cherishing the hope that our sincerity will, in time to come, encourage the development of foresight in our rulers and in all our citizens.

In point of fact, we reckon it to be thirty-six years since the foundation of the first dynasty, yet the Hellenic Government has, for want of means of resistance, found itself under the deplorable necessity of submitting to a violation of Greek territory.

Whilst these events were passing in Greece, all Europe manifested a desire to preserve European peace; and the three Protecting Powers of Greece, in conjunction with the three other Powers, parties to the Treaty of 1856, were induced to investigate the difference, and unanimously agreed to a decision which admits a portion of the grievances of Turkey to be well-founded, attributes the behaviour of Greece to an exaggerated feeling of patriotism, and binds us for the future to observe certain laws which the Conference considers as being common to all Governments. These laws are as follows: That Greece shall abstain from assisting or tolerating (1) the formation, on her territories, of bands formed with the object of invading Turkey; and (2) the armament, in Greek ports, of vessels armed and destined to support any attempt at insurrection in Turkey.

This decision of the Conference was communicated to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs by the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, who presided at this diplomatic assembly, and Greece was called upon to make known, within the week following the receipt of this communication, her adhesion, pure and simple, to the Declaration of the Conference, and her intention to abide by it.

In this same despatch, the President of the Conference made known to the Hellenic Government that, if it declared its adhesion to the Resolutions of the Conference, and its intention to respect them, Turkey engaged to cancel the measures contained in her ultimatum, and the re-establishment of relations between the two States would be considered as effected *ipso facto*; but that, in case the Hellenic Government refused its adhesion, the Conference abandoned it to the consequences of its refusal.

Meanwhile, counsels coming from every side, both from Sovereigns and Governments, either directly to the Government or to the Representatives of His Majesty at the

different European Courts, were addressed to Greece, recommending her to accept the Resolutions of the Conference, and putting before her clearly the great dangers which menaced her in case of refusal.

It was under these circumstances that a ministerial crisis occurred four days after the receipt of those despatches. That crisis ended to-day in our being summoned to office, and to-morrow is the last day of the delay fixed by the President of the Conference.

Having given above an exact résumé of the Resolutions of the Conference of Paris, we must not omit to state that, however painful the acceptance of the two above-mentioned conditions be to Greece, she does not bind her future, nor does she combat her aspirations. Moreover, were we to refuse our adherence to the Resolutions of the Conference, nothing would remain for us but to make war against Turkey; but, unfortunately, at the very time when we are without the necessary naval forces, we find the nation unprepared by land.

We intend to present to the representative body of the country, which will be chosen by means of elections, really free and uninfluenced by any legal or illegal action on the part of the Government, detailed statements of all the military stores which we have found in the State arsenals, and exact particulars respecting the state of our naval and military forces, and our other resources of war. We limit ourselves, for the present, to declaring that, in our opinion, we should have betrayed the interests of our beloved country, now so severely tried, if we had exposed her to a war at a moment when her army is inefficient and unprepared, when the nation could not arm for want of resources, and when all Europe evinces hostility to any undertaking which would disturb peace.

Our opinion and our action could not therefore be doubtful. In the face of evils so imminent and so inevitable, we could not hesitate to make known our adhesion to the Resolutions of the Conference of Paris.

Our duty towards the country obliged us, in the midst of extremely embarrassing events, to accept the task laid upon us by the King. Our duty towards the country obliges us thus to reply to the Conference of Paris, however great be the pain which this reply costs our minds. The same sense of duty demands that we should accompany our answer by a summary of the rights and claims of Greece, and we cannot suffer ourselves to fail in this obligation.

Putting our trust in the Sovereign, who was elected by the free votes of the Hellenic people, and who respects their liberties, and sets the highest value on the glory and greatness of our country, let us all implore the aid of the Almighty on behalf of Greece, and pray that the ills of the present may serve to instruct us for the future.

Athens, ^{January 25} 1869.
^{February 6}

(Signed)

TH. A. ZAIMI, *President*.
THEODORE DELYANNI.
A. PETSALIS.
D. SARAVAS.
A. AUGERINOS.
S. SOUTZO.
D. TRIGHETAS.

No. 201.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 19.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 18, 1869.

THE Plenipotentiaries assembled this afternoon at the Foreign Office, at 3 o'clock, to take into consideration the answer of His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs to the letter and Declaration addressed to the Greek Government on the 20th ultimo, by the Marquis de Lavalette, on behalf of the Conference.

A conversation of some importance took place among the Plenipotentiaries before they went into Conference.

M. de Lavalette showed to those of the Plenipotentiaries who had not yet seen it, the Proclamation issued at Athens on the ^{25th January} 6th February by the Zaimis Ministry, which had reached Paris on the previous evening. A copy of it is inclosed in Mr. Erskine's despatch of the 10th instant, which I forward to your Lordship to-night.

M. de Lavalette observed, that as this Proclamation had not been communicated to the Conference we were not called upon to take formal cognizance of it. He thought it very open to criticism: but still he was willing to make great allowances for the difficult

position in which the Ministry of M. Zaimis found itself. It did not, he said, in his opinion, weaken the formal adherence to the principles laid down by the Conference which was expressed in the letter from the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs. He did not, therefore, consider that it ought to interfere with our deliberation upon that letter.

M. de Lavalette went on to say that M. Rangabé had informed him yesterday that he had received a note from his Government, to be communicated to each Plenipotentiary. M. de Lavalette had, he told us, replied that he could not consent that there should be any trifling with the Conference. If the note contained anything in derogation of the adherence of the Greek Government to the Declaration, he must, for his part, decline to allow Greece to reap the benefit of that adherence. He had, he said, proceeded to give M. Rangabé notice that the Conference was to hold a sitting which would in all probability be the last, at 3 o'clock to-day, and had added that M. Rangabé would find him at the Foreign Office at 1 o'clock, if he desired to communicate the note to him; that he must leave M. Rangabé to decide what course his instructions and the interests of his country required him to take.

M. de Lavalette concluded by observing that it was now more than two hours since 1 o'clock, but that M. Rangabé had neither presented himself, nor sent any verbal message or written communication.

Count de Stackelberg, the Russian Ambassador, said that he had seen M. Rangabé, and had been charged by him to tell us that he had advisedly abstained from communicating the note either to M. de Lavalette or any other Plenipotentiary. M. de Stackelberg added that it appeared, from the account M. Rangabé had given him of the note, that it did not detract anything from the adherence to the Declaration, but that it treated of matters similar to those contained in the previous papers put in by M. Rangabé, which the Conference had declared itself to be incompetent to discuss.

After this conversation the Plenipotentiaries passed into the Conference room, and the sitting was declared to be opened.

The answer of the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs had been communicated to the several Plenipotentiaries the morning before. It was now read, and the question put whether it contained a sufficient adherence to the Declaration of the Conference.

Mention having been made of the Proclamation and note which had been spoken of in the previous conversation, I asked whether we could record as established facts that notice of the sitting of the Conference had been given to the Representative of the Greek Government, that ample opportunity to communicate the note previously to the sitting had been afforded him, and that he had advisedly abstained from doing so.

M. de Lavalette and M. de Stackelberg answered decidedly in the affirmative; and I said that, this being the case, I was ready to consider the letter from the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Conference without further hesitation.

Each of the Plenipotentiaries declared this letter to contain a sufficient adherence to the Proclamation.

At the request of the Marquis de Lavalette the Ottoman Plenipotentiary repeated, in the name of his Government, the assurance that the emigrants from Crete to Greece would not, on returning to their country, be in any way prosecuted or molested on account of the past insurrection.

A Resolution expressing in warm terms the gratitude of the Conference to its President, was proposed by the Austrian Plenipotentiary, seconded by me, and eagerly agreed to by the other Plenipotentiaries.

A vote of thanks to M. Desprez, the Secretary of the Conference, was passed unanimously.

It was decided that the obligation to secrecy assumed by the Plenipotentiaries should be no longer binding.

Finally, the Conference declared itself dissolved.

A summary of the proceedings was drawn up and sent immediately *en clair* by telegraph from the Foreign Office by each Plenipotentiary to his Government.

This telegram will have informed your Lordship of the steps taken with regard to the renewal of relations between Turkey and Greece. I subjoin a copy of it:—

“Dans la séance d'aujourd'hui, la Conférence, après avoir entendu la lecture de la réponse du Gouvernement Grec à la Déclaration du 20 Janvier, a pris acte de son adhésion aux principes énoncés dans ce document.

“Elle a chargé son Président de remercier les Cours de Constantinople et d'Athènes de la déférence dont elles ont fait preuve pour ses conseils.

“Elle a en même temps déclaré les rapports diplomatiques rétablis *ipso facto* entre les deux Gouvernements, et confié au Président le soin de fixer le jour du départ des Légations respectives après avoir pressenti la Porte et le Cabinet d'Athènes.

"La Conférence s'est ensuite déclarée dissoute."*

M. de Lavalette promised to dispatch the same telegram immediately to Baron Baude, to be communicated to the Greek Government, and to send a copy of it at once to M. Rangabé.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 202.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 19, 1869.

HER Majesty's Government approve the advice which, as reported in your despatch of the 7th instant, your Excellency has given to the Porte with respect to the orders which under existing circumstances should be addressed to the Turkish authorities on the Greek frontier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 203.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 20.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 19, 1869.

I LEARN from the Marquis de Lavalette that M. Rangabé delivered to him this morning the note sent by his Government for communication to each of the Plenipotentiaries who signed the Declaration of the late Conference. The inclosed copy of it has been put into my hand by M. de Lavalette. His Excellency and I having read it over together, are both of opinion that the contents of it would not have made us hesitate to accept as sufficient the adherence of the Greek Government to our Declaration, if they had been communicated to us before the dissolution of the Conference. Time does not admit of my making any further comment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 203.

M. T. Delyanni to M. Rangabé.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 25 Janvier 1869.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint en copie la lettre par laquelle M. le Marquis de Lavalette a fait parvenir à mon prédécesseur M. Delyanni le texte de la Déclaration de la Conférence, ainsi que la réponse que j'ai adressée à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté l'Empereur pour lui faire connaître l'adhésion pure et simple, conformément à son désir, du Gouvernement du Roi aux conclusions des six Grandes Puissances Européennes.

Les Membres qui composent le Cabinet actuel, appréciant la gravité des circonstances, n'ont pas reculé devant la responsabilité de l'adhésion aux conclusions de la Conférence, adhésion imposée par la force des événements. Ils ont pensé en outre que la Grèce, quelles que fussent ses convictions sur sa conduite durant l'insurrection de Candie, quelle que fut la légitimité de ses sympathies pour le peuple Crétois, ne pouvait que déférer aux vœux unanimement exprimés par les Grandes Puissances Européennes, lorsque surtout parmi ces Puissances il y avait trois qui l'avaient, dans le temps, puissamment aidé à conquérir son indépendance.

* "At the sitting of to-day, the Conference, after having heard the answer of the Greek Government to the Declaration of the 20th of January read, recorded their adhesion to the principles laid down in that document.

"It charged the President to thank the Courts of Constantinople and Athens for the deference to its counsels of which they have given proof.

"It at the same time declared diplomatic relations to be *ipso facto* re-established between the two Governments, and entrusted to the President the duty of fixing the day for the departure of the respective Legations, after having apprised the Porte and the Cabinet of Athens.

"The Conference then declared itself dissolved."

Mais je ne saurais vous dissimuler, M. le Ministre, que mes collègues et moi avons partagé dans toute son étendue la pénible impression que l'œuvre de la Conférence avait produite sur les esprits de tous les Hellènes. Il n'a fallu rien moins que notre dévouement au Souverain et la conviction de servir les intérêts du pays pour nous décider à conformer notre marche aux suggestions des grands Cabinets Européens.

En lisant la Déclaration de la Conférence, on est frappé du silence gardé sur les procédés de l'Amiral Ture, Hobart Pacha, à Syra, qui y a commis une violation manifeste du droit des gens.

On n'en est pas moins surpris de voir que la Conférence n'a pas voulu examiner les causes mêmes du différend survenu entre la Grèce et la Turquie, à savoir, la condition et les griefs du peuple Crétois, et qu'elle semble admettre en principe certaines réclamations de la Porte Ottomane qui, après les explications contenues dans la réponse du Gouvernement du Roi à l'ultimatum Ture, auraient dû être rejetées comme dénuées de toute consistance. D'ailleurs la manière vague dont ces réclamations ont été énoncées auraient dû fixer l'attention de la Conférence. La Turquie a prétendu que plusieurs sujets Ottomans civils et militaires avaient été maltraités, massacrés même en Grèce, sans que les coupables fussent poursuivis ; elle a mis en avant une demande d'indemnité pour les victimes, mais elle a évité de rien préciser à ce sujet, ni au moment de la rupture, ni au sein de la Conférence. Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Roi a établi d'une manière incontestable que tous ces faits se réduisaient au meurtre d'un Albanais Musulman par un autre Albanais Chrétien, tous deux sujets Ottomans de passage à Syra, et que le meurtrier fait l'objet d'une active poursuite de la part de la justice. Il résulte même de renseignements transmis après le départ de Photiades Bey par les autorités de Syra au Gouvernement du Roi que le malfaiteur en question y avait été arrêté, mis en jugement, et condamné par la Cour d'Assises à plusieurs années de réclusion.

Il est évident que la Turquie a cherché par des accusations de cette nature à surprendre la conscience des Grandes Puissances, mais l'impartialité commandait de la mettre en demeure de prouver ses allégations.

Le Gouvernement du Roi ayant adhéré aux principes de conduite internationale posés par la Conférence de Paris, je crois inutile de démontrer ici que la Grèce n'a pas violé ces principes, en tant qu'ils concernent ses obligations comme Etat. Si les arguments et les faits produits par mes prédécesseurs dans le long cours de la lutte Crétoise n'ont pu former l'opinion des Grands Cabinets Européens à ce sujet, une discussion de ma part dans ce moment-ci serait inopportune et stérile. Je ne puis, toutefois, m'empêcher, M. le Ministre, de faire une réflexion qui, en l'état, ne saurait plus avoir qu'une portée théorique, bien qu'elle soit suggérée par la pratique de tous temps. Il en est des règles du droit des gens comme de celles du droit privé. Quelquefois leur observation absolue est aussi injuste et dangereuse que leur violation même. C'est ce qui peut expliquer comment les différentes nations se sont vues obligées de temps à autre de transgresser certaines règles internationales qu'elles n'entendaient nullement abolir ni méconnaître, et qu'elles ont invoquées depuis. Aussi, entre autres, il est admis en principe qu'un Etat ne doit pas intervenir dans les affaires intérieures d'un autre Etat, et que les neutres doivent respecter les blocus des belligérants. Cependant il est constant que ces règles générales ne sont pas sans exceptions, qu'il y a des cas où l'intervention et la violation des blocus pour les Etats neutres sont justifiées ; et l'on a vu que toutes les fois que les exceptions ont été faites pour le bien général, qu'elles étaient dictées par des considérations d'humanité, qu'elles étaient, en un mot, conformes au droit naturel, elles n'ont pas manqué d'obtenir l'approbation de l'opinion publique et de l'histoire. Il est évident qu'en méconnaissant ces principes, qui ont surtout trouvé leur application dans les temps modernes et qui se lient intimement aux progrès de la science et de la civilisation, on froisserait le sentiment général, tout aussi bien qu'en érigeant en doctrine la violation de toute règle plus ou moins restrictive du droit des gens.

Il est d'autant plus regrettable que la Conférence ne se soit pas occupée de la question Crétoise, qui pourrait, en se renouvelant dans un temps plus ou moins rapproché, produire les mêmes effets que les Grandes Puissances, à l'exception de la Grande Bretagne, ont cru devoir peser en 1867 sur la Porte Ottomane pour la déterminer à consentir à un examen des vœux des Crétois. Ces Puissances, intéressées visiblement au sort de ces derniers, n'ont pas hésité, dans cette même année, à joindre les actes aux paroles en violant dans un but humanitaire le blocus de la Crète et en faisant transporter en Grèce par leurs escadres 60,000 réfugiés.

Le Gouvernement du Roi, comptant sur les dispositions des six Grandes Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856 en faveur des Chrétiens de l'Empire Ottoman, se flatte que ces Puissances voudraient bien employer leur puissante influence, afin que le sort des

Crétois et de tous ces Chrétiens nos coreligionnaires soit sérieusement amélioré. Les circonstances exceptionnelles où le peuple Crétois se trouve, ses sacrifices et ses souffrances dans une lutte inégale de deux ans et demi, le recommandent particulièrement à leur attention bienveillante.

En effet, un peuple Chrétien qui, par son patriotisme et son héroïque résistance, a excité les sympathies du monde civilisé, dont le territoire a été le théâtre d'une guerre d'extermination qui se débat dans une affreuse misère, et qui, après tant d'efforts, voit s'évanouir des espérances les plus chères, va être à la merci des vainqueurs. Il serait digne des Grandes Puissances Européennes d'aviser de nouveau au moyen d'améliorer les conditions de ce malheureux peuple. Une semblable décision de leur part, en même temps qu'elle sera un acte d'humanité, produira un heureux effet sur les Chrétiens d'Orient, qui y verront un témoignage de la sollicitude de ces Puissances pour leur sort.

La Grèce, se rappelant qu'elle est le seul Etat indépendant Chrétien en Orient, et que des liens de religion, d'origine, de souffrance, et de luttes communes l'unissent à toutes ces populations, qui attendent leur affranchissement, ou, au moins, une amélioration sensible de leurs conditions d'existence, croit avoir le droit et le devoir d'élever la voix en leur faveur, et de faire appel aux sentiments des Puissances signataires du Traité de 1856.

Je vous invite à donner lecture de la présente à son Excellence M. le Marquis de Lavalette, comme Plénipotentiaire de France et Président de la Conférence, ainsi qu'aux Plénipotentiaires des cinq autres Grandes Puissances, et de leur en laisser copie.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé) THEODORE DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, January 25,
February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of the letter in which the Marquis de Lavalette forwarded to my predecessor, M. Delyanni, the text of the Declaration of the Conference, as also of the answer which I have addressed to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the Emperor, in order to make him acquainted with the adhesion pure and simple, in conformity with his wish, of the King's Government to the conclusions of the six Great European Powers.

The members who compose the present Cabinet, appreciating the gravity of the circumstances, have not shrunk from the responsibility of adhesion to the conclusions of the Conference—an adhesion imposed by the force of events. They thought besides that Greece, whatever were her convictions as to her conduct during the insurrection of Candia, whatever was the legitimacy of her sympathies for the Cretan people, could not but defer to the wishes unanimously expressed by the Great European Powers, especially when among these Powers there were three who had, in former times, powerfully aided her in achieving her independence.

But I cannot conceal from you, M. le Ministre, that my colleagues and myself have shared to the fullest extent the painful impression which the work of the Conference has produced on the minds of all Hellenes. Nothing less than our devotion to the Sovereign and the conviction of serving the interests of the country could have decided us to conform our steps to the suggestions of the great European Cabinets.

In reading the Declaration of the Conference, one is struck by the silence observed with respect to the proceedings at Syra of the Turkish Admiral, Hobart Pasha, who there committed a manifest violation of the law of nations.

One is no less surprised to see that the Conference would not examine the very causes of the difference arisen between Greece and Turkey, namely, the condition and the grievances of the Cretan people, and that it seems to admit in principle certain claims of the Ottoman Porte, which, after the explanations contained in the reply of the King's Government to the Turkish Ultimatum, ought to have been rejected as denuded of all consistency. Besides, the vague manner in which these claims were expressed ought to have fixed the attention of the Conference. Turkey pretended that several civil and military Ottoman subjects had been maltreated, even massacred, in Greece, without the guilty parties being prosecuted; she put forward a demand of indemnity for the victims, but she avoided specifying anything precisely on this head, either at the moment of the rupture, or in the Conference. The King's Minister for Foreign Affairs has established in an incontestable manner that all these facts reduce themselves to the murder of a Mussulman Albanian by a Christian Albanian, both of them Ottoman subjects in transit through Syra, and that the murderer is the object of active prosecution on the part of justice. It even transpires, from information transmitted after the departure of Photiades Bey by the authorities at Syra to the King's Government, that the malefactor

in question had been arrested there, brought to trial, and condemned by the Court of Assize to several years' confinement.

It is evident that Turkey has sought by accusations of this nature to surprise the conscience of the Great Powers, but impartiality demanded that the burden be thrown on her of proving her allegations.

The King's Government having acceded to the principles of international conduct laid down by the Paris Conference, I think it needless to demonstrate here that Greece has not violated these principles in so far as they concern her duties as a State. If the arguments and facts adduced by my predecessors during the long course of the Cretan struggle have failed in forming the opinion of the great European Cabinets on this subject, a discussion on my part at this moment would be inopportune and fruitless. I cannot, however, refrain, M. le Ministre, from making a reflection, which, at this stage, can only have a theoretical value, although it be suggested by the practice of all time. It is with the rules of the Law of Nations as with those of private law. Sometimes their absolute observance is as unjust and dangerous as even their violation. This may explain how it is that different nations have seen themselves obliged from time to time to transgress certain international rules which they had no intention of either abolishing or ignoring, and which they have since invoked. Thus, amongst others, the principle is admitted that a State should not interfere in the internal affairs of another State, and that neutrals should respect belligerent blockade. Yet it is certain that these general rules are not without exceptions, that there are cases when intervention and violation of blockades are justified on the part of neutral States; and it has been seen that whenever these exceptions have been made for the general good, whenever they were dictated by humane considerations, whenever, in a word, they were in conformity with natural right, they did not fail to gain the approval of public opinion and of history. It is evident that by ignoring these principles, which have been specially found to apply in modern times, and which are intimately connected with the progress of science and of civilization, one would clash with general sentiment just as much as by laying down as a doctrine the violation of every more or less restrictive rule of international law.

It is so much the more to be regretted that the Conference should not have occupied itself with the Cretan question, which might, by recurring at some future time, produce the same effects that the Great Powers, with the exception of Great Britain, thought it their duty in 1867 to press upon the Ottoman Porte, in order to determine it to consent to an examination of the wishes of the Cretans. These Powers, visibly interested in the fate of the latter, did not hesitate that same year to suit acts to words by violating, with a humane purpose, the blockade of Crete, and by causing to be transported, by means of their squadrons, 60,000 refugees to Greece.

The King's Government, relying on the dispositions of the six Great Powers signatory of the Treaty of 1856 in favour of the Christians of the Ottoman Empire, flatters itself that these Powers will employ their powerful influence, to the end that the condition of the Cretans and of all those Christians, our co-religionists, may be materially improved. The exceptional circumstances in which the Cretan people is placed, its sacrifices and its sufferings in an unequal struggle of two years and a-half, recommend it specially to their benevolent attention.

In point of fact, a Christian people which, by its patriotism and its heroic resistance, has excited the sympathies of the civilized world, whose territory has been the theatre of a war of extermination, which is struggling with frightful misery, and which, after so many efforts, sees its dearest hopes vanish, will be at the mercy of the conquerors. It would be worthy of the Great European Powers to consult afresh as to the means of ameliorating the condition of this unhappy people. Such a decision on their part, whilst it will be an act of humanity, will produce a happy effect on the Christians of the East, who will see in it a proof of the solicitude of these Powers for their fate.

Greece, remembering that she is the only independent Christian State in the East, and that bonds of religion, of origin, of suffering, and of common struggles unite her to all these populations, which are waiting for their enfranchisement, or, at least, a sensible amelioration of their conditions of existence, thinks it her right and duty to raise her voice in their favour, and to make an appeal to the feelings of the Powers signatory of the Treaty of 1856.

I beg you to read this to his Excellency the Marquis de Lavalette, as French Plenipotentiary and President of the Conference, as also to the Plenipotentiaries of the five other Great Powers, and to leave a copy with them.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) THEODORE DELYANNI.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1869.

I HAVE to instruct your Excellency, as I have already done by telegraph, to express to the Porte the great satisfaction felt by Her Majesty's Government at the result of the Conference, and their earnest hope that hereafter the relations between Turkey and Greece may be maintained on a friendly footing. With a view to this end Her Majesty's Government cannot too strongly urge both Governments to adopt without delay or hesitation the closing recommendation of the Conference, and to renew immediately diplomatic intercourse with each other.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 205.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1869.

I RECEIVED in the evening of the 18th instant your telegram reporting that the Conference had accepted as satisfactory the answer of the Greek Government, announcing that it adhered to the Declaration of which Count Walewski was the bearer, and that thereupon the Conference had declared that it was dissolved.

Yesterday morning I received your despatch of the same date, giving an account in detail of what had passed with reference to the Greek answer both before and in the Conference.

The business on which your Excellency has been engaged being thus concluded, I have great satisfaction in conveying to you Her Majesty's entire approval of your conduct, and of the zeal and ability that you have shown in the execution of the instructions which it has been my duty, in obedience to the Queen's commands, from time to time to convey to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 206.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 20, 1869.

M. RANGABÉ, the Greek Minister, called upon me this afternoon and placed in my hands a copy of the note sent to him by his Government for communication to each of the Plenipotentiaries who signed the Declaration of the late Conference. A copy of it was inclosed in my despatch to your Lordship dated yesterday.

M. Rangabé told me that, after mature reflection, he had determined not to communicate the note to the Plenipotentiaries until after the dissolution of the Conference. It did not, of course, contain anything to invalidate the adherence *pure et simple* of the Greek Government to the Declaration; but he had thought that, if read at the Conference table, at which the Representative of Turkey would be seated with the other Plenipotentiaries, it might give occasion to comments which might interfere with the smooth and speedy progress of business in the last sitting.

M. Rangabé begged me to direct the particular attention of Her Majesty's Government to the parts referring to the future government of the Cretans.

The note is, as your Lordship will have perceived, in the form of a despatch from His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs to M. Rangabé, dated ^{25th January} 6th February.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

* A similar despatch was addressed to Mr. Erskine.

Consul Dickson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord,

Canea, Crete, February 6, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter addressed to me by the Vice-Consul at Candia, reporting that an expeditionary force had set out for the insurgent district of Mirabello, without, however, encountering any resistance. The Governor-General, during his late visit to Candia, had issued a notification offering a reward of 500 Turkish pounds for the head of each of the unsubdued insurgent chiefs, Korakas, Sphakianaki, Lakerda, Trifitzos, and Kakkinis, and that any property they may possess shall be confiscated, if they do not surrender within the fixed term, being the 8th instant. Captain Kriaris, whom the Governor-General expected would have come down to Canea along with his late companions in arms, Hadgi Mikhalis, &c., after having signed the petition alluded to in my despatch of the 18th ultimo, effected his escape, and ever since lay concealed in a cave near Rogdia, in Ennea-Khoria valley, watching for an opportunity to escape to Greece. The authorities, meanwhile, offered 300*l.* for his head. Yesterday a Turkish patrol, having discovered the place of his concealment, attacked him and three of his followers present; Kriaris fell wounded in the thigh, but, it appears, not before he had shot a zaptieh. He is now in jail, awaiting the order for his removal to Canea.

The condition of the island being satisfactory, with every prospect of peace being speedily restored to every part of it, the authorities have decided on gradually reducing the army strong of fifty-seven battalions, or equal to about 45,000 men, by one-half or a little less. The duty of garrisoning the blockhouses will devolve principally upon irregular Albanian troops.

Accordingly the "Mary Constance," British steamer, which had brought supplies for the army from Constantinople, took away early this week 1,300 redif. The "Taléa," Imperial despatch-boat, carried about the same time 600 Albanian irregulars from Salonica to Suda Bay.

Several Cretan refugee families, roughly estimated at 180, have returned to the island, partly by the last Austrian Lloyd's boat, partly by sailing-boats.

Her Majesty's gunboat "Wizard" having arrived from Malta, in order to resume its station in these waters, the "Trinculo" sailed for the Piræus on the morning of the 4th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 207.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir,

Canea, Crete, February 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to state that eight battalions of Imperial troops under the command of Adil Pasha (the Commander-in-chief Mehmet Ali Pasha being unwell) advanced to Mirabello without any resistance from insurgents.

The inhabitants have not left their houses as they did before, but continued their agricultural occupations when the troops arrived. Many of the said villagers who were in arms with the insurgents before the arrival of the troops are stated to have remained quietly in their villages.

His Excellency Costaki Adossides Pasha returned into this town last night from Mirabello, and brought here also some armed insurgents who will serve the Imperial Government, as it is stated. The insurgent Chiefs, Korakas, Trifitsos, Lakerdas, Sphakianakis, are stated either to have left Crete, or to have taken refuge in caverns. I hear also that his Excellency Costaki Pasha having suddenly arrived in Neonchorion of Mirabello, where was another insurgent Chief, Kokinis; the latter fled on the mountains, and left his horse in the possession of the troops.

His Excellency Hussein Pasha arrived here the day before yesterday, and a Proclamation was issued by the local authorities, stating that as the Provinces of Canea, Sphakia, and Retimo have been submitted, and there remain only a few insurgents in Lasethe and Candia Provinces under five Chiefs; the latter must also tender their

submission to the local authorities within the 8th instant, otherwise after that date their properties will be confiscated, and 500 Turkish lira are offered by the authorities for each head of the said five insurgent Chiefs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYSIMACHUS A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 208.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 26.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 23, 1869.

MENTION was made at the last sitting of the Conference of the Proclamation of the Greek Council of Ministers to the people, and of a note which was known to have been sent to the Greek Minister at Paris, to be communicated to the several Plenipotentiaries who signed the Declaration of the 20th January.

The Greek Minister advisedly withheld the note until after the dissolution of the Conference. As I have already had the honour to report to your Lordship he has, since the dissolution, communicated it to the Marquis de Lavalette, and to the several diplomatsists who represented Great Britain, Austria, Italy, Prussia, and Russia.

An examination of this document will show that it contains nothing which would have made the Conference hesitate to accept the Greek adherence to its decision, and to declare diplomatic relations to be re-established between Turkey and Greece. In fact, the note distinctly states that the object of the letter from His Hellenic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Conference was to convey the adhesion *pure et simple* of the Greek Government to the decision of the Plenipotentiaries.

Such being the case, the further observations made by the Greek Minister in this note on the proceedings of the Conference do not require much comment.

The measures adopted by Hobart Pasha to prevent the departure of the "Enosis" from Syra were posterior to the events which formed the subject of the Turkish ultimatum, and consequently did not fall within the scope of the Conference. A discussion of these measures and of the provocation which led to them could hardly have failed to exercise an unfavourable effect on the deliberations, and to increase the difficulty of coming to a decision acceptable to both parties.

An inquiry into the condition of the Cretans and the causes of the insurrection would have been equally foreign to the limits prescribed to the Conference. To have entered upon these subjects would certainly have prevented the attainment of the objects in view—the suspension of coercive measures by the Porte, and the speedy restoration of friendly relations between Turkey and Greece.

With regard to alleged acts of violence committed in Greece against Ottoman subjects, and claims for indemnity for such acts, the Conference decided, with the consent of the Ottoman Plenipotentiary, that they should be left to the jurisdiction of the Greek Tribunals, and prosecuted in the ordinary legal form before those Tribunals. It is not easy to see in what way greater consideration could have been manifested for the dignity and independence of Greece.

The Greek Minister wisely abstains from discussing afresh the question as to how far the requirements of international law were in fact observed by Greece during the Cretan insurrection. His argument that in certain cases the strict observance of the rules of international law is as unjust and as dangerous as the violation of them is hardly worthy of serious notice. Nor am I called upon to inquire whether the proceedings of some of the great Powers, with regard to the late insurrection, were or were not incompatible with international law. Great Britain took no part in those proceedings, and certainly events appear to have proved that in this case at least the conduct of Her Majesty's Government in strictly adhering to the principles of international law was alike wise and humane.

The appeal of Greece to the solicitude of the great Powers of Europe in favour of the Christians in the East I should be loath to criticise. I must, however, in justice to the Porte, observe that, independently of the formal assurance given to the Conference by the Ottoman Plenipotentiary, the past conduct of the Turkish authorities may well inspire confidence that those Cretans who have returned to their allegiance have no reason to apprehend that they will be prosecuted or molested on account of the part taken by them in the insurrection.

The gist of the Proclamation to the people of Greece appears to be an announcement that however disagreeable it may be to the Greeks to observe the rules of international law, their Government had only two alternatives between which to decide. They were obliged either to adhere immediately to the Declaration of the Conference, or to engage in a hopeless war with Turkey.

On comparing the defenceless state of Greece as described in this Proclamation with the forces at the disposal of her adversary and the readiness of the Porte to use them, all well-wishers to Greece must be thankful to the King and his present Ministers for availing themselves of the means provided by the Conference for saving their country from so terrible a danger.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 209.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 26.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 23, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a certified copy of the Protocol of the sitting of the 18th instant, which was the seventh and last sitting of the Conference on the Turco-Greek difference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 209.

Protocol (No. 7) of Conference held at Paris, February 18, 1869.

Présents :

Les Plénipotentiaires de l'Autriche-Hongrie ;

„ „ de la France ;

„ „ de la Grande Bretagne ;

„ „ de l'Italie ;

„ „ de la Prusse et de la Confédération de l'Allemagne
du Nord ;

„ „ de la Russie ;

„ „ de la Turquie ;

Le Secrétaire de la Conférence.

LE Président de la Conférence ayant reçu la réponse du Gouvernement Hellénique à la communication qu'il avait été chargé de lui faire, en vertu des décisions adoptées en commun, les Plénipotentiaires se sont réunis aujourd'hui pour prendre connaissance de ce document.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette ouvre la séance en donnant lecture de la lettre du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes en date du ^{25 Janvier} 6 Février. Il ajoute que le Ministre de France à Athènes lui a fait parvenir une Proclamation au peuple Grec par laquelle le nouveau Cabinet explique sa résolution d'accéder à la Déclaration de la Conférence. M. le Marquis de Lavalette a été également instruit par M. le Ministre de Grèce à Paris de l'existence d'une circulaire adressée aux Agents Helléniques au dehors, et dont M. Rangabé avait manifesté l'intention de donner connaissance à chacun des Plénipotentiaires. Cette communication n'ayant pas été faite jusqu'à l'heure présente, M. le Plénipotentiaire de France ne pense pas qu'il y ait lieu de s'en préoccuper. Il ne croit pas non plus que l'on doive entrer dans l'examen de la Proclamation, qui n'a pas été transmise par le Cabinet Hellénique. La Conférence a donc à délibérer uniquement sur la réponse du Cabinet d'Athènes et à décider si ce document peut être considéré comme constituant une adhésion complète à la Déclaration du 20 Janvier et comme propre à mettre fin au différend entre la Turquie et la Grèce.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de l'Autriche-Hongrie dit qu'il aurait désiré savoir que la circulaire ne renferme pas de réserves de nature à modifier l'opinion des Puissances sur la réponse de la Grèce. Si cependant cette circulaire est conçue dans le même esprit que la Proclamation, et ne contient que l'expression de regrets, M. le Prince de

Metternich ne voit aucune raison d'en tenir compte ; car elle ne pourrait exercer aucune influence sur le jugement que la Conférence est appelée à porter.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie constate qu'en fait la circulaire dont il s'agit n'a pas été communiquée en temps opportun pour être l'objet d'une délibération, et il en tire la conclusion que M. le Ministre de Grèce n'y aura pas lui-même attaché une valeur pratique.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre demande si l'on peut regarder comme établi que le Représentant de la Grèce a été averti de la réunion de la Conférence, et qu'il a été mis en mesure de faire sa communication avant la séance ; en un mot si l'on peut croire qu'il s'est abstenu sciemment de donner suite à sa pensée première.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires de France et de Russie répondent affirmativement.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Angleterre dit que la Conférence doit dès lors se borner à rechercher si la lettre de M. Delyanni à M. le Marquis de Lavalette est conforme ou non au vœu émis dans la Déclaration collective.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette est d'avis que si M. le Ministre de Grèce avait cru devoir faire la communication qu'il avait annoncée, les Plénipotentiaires auraient dû eux-mêmes l'examiner pour se conformer à la règle qu'ils avaient suivie jusqu'ici, sauf à écarter toute discussion sur les questions laissées en dehors des limites de leur compétence. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France en avait fait l'observation à M. Rangabé, et avait appelé toute son attention sur les difficultés qu'il créerait pour la Grèce si, produisant un document nouveau après la réponse de M. Delyanni, il donnait à la Cour d'Athènes l'apparence de vouloir retirer d'une main ce qu'elle accordait de l'autre. La Conférence, de son côté, ajoute M. le Marquis de Lavalette, n'a pas intérêt à demander la production d'une pièce qui pourrait faire renaître des discussions sans issue. Elle a voulu écarter les incidents qui inquiétaient dans le présent les amis de la paix en Orient. Renfermés dans cette limite par l'accord de leurs Cabinets, les Plénipotentiaires ont atteint leur but, et ils peuvent légitimement se flatter d'avoir rendu un important service à la Grèce. La proclamation du Ministère Hellénique en offre la preuve en quelque sorte à chaque ligne, car elle atteste d'une manière plus saisissante qu'aucune Puissance n'eût osé le dire à quel point les Grecs étaient hors d'état de soutenir la guerre avec la Turquie. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France voit en même temps dans la situation de la Grèce telle qu'elle est représentée par la Proclamation un témoignage de la modération et de la sagesse dont la Porte Ottomane s'est montrée animée en abandonnant la pensée de poursuivre elle-même ses griefs par la force et en déférant aux conseils pacifiques des Puissances. Devant cet exposé de l'état du Royaume Hellénique, on doit rendre également justice aux nouveaux Ministres qui ont su, en acceptant la Déclaration, détourner les périls qui menaçaient leur pays si une lutte armée avait dû s'engager. Sans s'arrêter aux regrets dont ils ont entouré leur résolution, la Conférence, suivant M. le Marquis de Lavalette, doit envisager la résolution elle-même, et il se plaint, pour sa part, à y voir un gage sérieux de l'apaisement qui s'est fait dans les esprits en Grèce.

M. le Comte de Stackelberg ajoute que Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes a montré beaucoup d'énergie dans ces dernières circonstances, et que sa fermeté est aussi une garantie de la loyauté avec laquelle la Grèce se conformera aux engagements qu'elle a pris.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France déclare que Sa Majesté le Roi Georges s'est en effet conduit avec décision, ne se laissant ni décourager par les difficultés qu'il a rencontrées pour trouver de nouveaux Ministres ni intimider par les manifestations au moyen desquelles on avait espéré l'entraîner dans la voie de la résistance aux vœux de l'Europe. M. le Marquis de Lavalette s'associe donc entièrement au sentiment exprimé par M. le Plénipotentiaire de Russie et à l'espoir qu'il fonde pour l'avenir sur l'attitude calme et ferme de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes dans cette crise. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France croit trouver en outre un symptôme de l'affermissement des idées de prévoyance et de sagesse à Athènes dans la responsabilité que M. le Ministre de Grèce a assumée de ne pas faire la communication qu'il avait d'abord annoncée.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie dit qu'après les explications qui viennent d'être données il ne reste plus qu'à prendre une détermination au sujet de la réponse du Gouvernement Hellénique, seul document dont la Conférence soit saisie, et à décider si cette réponse satisfait aux conditions qu'elle devait remplir.

Tous les Plénipotentiaires sont d'accord pour reconnaître qu'elle ne donne lieu à aucune observation particulière.

En conséquence, sur la proposition de M. le Chevalier Nigra, la Conférence prend acte de l'adhésion de la Grèce aux principes énoncés dans la Déclaration du 20 Janvier, 1869.

Il est convenu que la lettre de M. Delyanni à M. le Marquis de Lavalette datée du 25 Janvier sera annexée au Protocole.
6 Février

La Conférence charge en même temps son Président de remercier les Cours de Constantinople et d'Athènes de la preuve de déférence qu'elles ont donnée en écoutant les conseils qui leur étaient adressés.

Conformément aux termes de la dépêche de M. le Marquis de Lavalette au Gouvernement Hellénique, la Conférence décide enfin que les rapports diplomatiques sont rétablis *ipso jure* entre la Turquie et la Grèce par l'adhésion, maintenant constatée, du Cabinet d'Athènes.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France demande à M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie s'il croit que la Porte serait disposée à accepter pour le rétablissement de fait des Légations le principe de la simultanéité et à prendre l'engagement d'envoyer son Ministre à Athènes dès qu'elle saurait, par l'entremise de l'Ambassade de France, que l'Agent Hellénique se rend lui-même à Constantinople.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie répond qu'il a informé son Gouvernement de la suggestion déjà faite dans des entretiens antérieurs par M. le Marquis de Lavalette à ce sujet, mais qu'il n'a pas encore reçu les instructions qu'il attend.

M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Italie dit que la Conférence rendrait un nouveau service à la Turquie et à la Grèce si elle employait ses bons offices pour faciliter l'aplanissement de toute difficulté sur ce dernier point, et il propose de charger M. le Plénipotentiaire de France de pressentir les deux Cours de Constantinople et d'Athènes à l'effet de déterminer, de concert avec elles, le jour où les Ministres respectifs partiraient pour se rendre à leur poste.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette déclare qu'il est prêt à seconder le vœu de la Conférence, et qu'il invitera sans perte de temps les Agents Diplomatiques de l'Empereur en Turquie et en Grèce à appuyer la combinaison dont il s'agit et à en faciliter l'exécution.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette donne ensuite connaissance d'une démarche faite auprès du Ministre de France en Grèce par une députation des principaux Crétois réfugiés à Athènes. Ces délégués de l'émigration étaient chargés d'attester le vœu unanime de leurs compatriotes de rentrer en Crète, pourvu qu'ils eussent la certitude de ne pas être molestés à leur retour. M. le Plénipotentiaire de France dit qu'il n'a aucun doute sur les dispositions bienveillantes de la Porte en ce qui concerne le traitement réservé aux familles Candiotes. Il désirerait toutefois recevoir de M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie l'assurance que les émigrés Crétois ne seront pas recherchés ou menacés pour leur participation aux événements de Candie. Il fait observer d'ailleurs que cette question n'implique aucune pensée d'immixtion dans les rapports du Sultan avec ses sujets. Le but de la Conférence, ajoute M. le Marquis de Lavalette, est uniquement de savoir d'une manière certaine qu'elle n'expose pas au danger de poursuites et de vexations de la part des autorités Ottomanes les familles dont elle demande que le repatriement soit facilité et qu'elle encourage ainsi à retourner en Crète.

Djemil Pacha répond que jamais aucun des réfugiés déjà rentrés en Crète n'a été inquiété; que la Porte elle-même s'efforce de hâter le repatriement; qu'elle n'a que des sentiments de commisération pour les malheureuses familles qui se sont éloignées de leur pays pendant l'insurrection; et qu'autorisées par ce qui s'est passé pour celles qui ont déjà quitté la Grèce, elles peuvent compter à leur retour sur toute sécurité pour leurs personnes et pour leurs biens.

La Conférence prend acte de la déclaration faite par M. le Plénipotentiaire Ottoman.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France demande à Djemil Pacha si la Porte est prête à recommencer les opérations du repatriement, et si elle se trouvera prochainement en état de recevoir dans les ports de la Grèce les familles qui désirent dès à présent effectuer leur retour en Crète.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de Turquie rappelle, qu'avant la rupture des relations avec la Grèce, le Gouvernement Ottoman avait nolisé des bâtiments destinés à opérer à ses frais le transport des émigrés Candiotes, et que ces mesures n'avaient été différées que par suite de la suspension des rapports diplomatiques. Il ajoute qu'il a transmis à Constantinople la question que M. le Plénipotentiaire de France lui avait déjà posée à ce sujet, et qu'il ne doute pas que la Porte ne s'empresse d'employer au repatriement tous les moyens dont elle dispose.

La discussion étant épuisée sur tous les points mis en délibération, M. le Prince de Metternich demande la parole pour remercier le Président au nom de la Conférence de la façon éclairée et loyale dont il a dirigé ses travaux, et ajoute que le succès obtenu doit lui être en grande partie attribué. M. le Plénipotentiaire d'Autriche-Hongrie se félicite personnellement d'avoir participé à une réunion qui s'est distinguée par une unité constante et remarquable de principes et d'intentions pacifiques, et il manifeste l'espoir que cette Conférence servira de précédent salubre.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne, de l'Italie, de la Prusse, de la Russie, et de la Turquie, joignent leurs remerciements à ceux de M. le Prince de Metternich, et se plaisent à constater l'esprit de conciliation et les vues élevées que M. le Plénipotentiaire de France a apportés dans cette négociation.

MM. les Plénipotentiaires expriment en même temps leur satisfaction pour la manière dont le Secrétaire de la Conférence, chargé de la rédaction des Protocoles, s'est acquitté de cette tâche.

M. le Marquis de Lavalette témoigne sa vive reconnaissance pour les appréciations bienveillantes de ses collègues et pour l'appui qu'il a trouvé auprès d'eux dans la poursuite du but commun. Si les travaux de la Conférence, ajoute-t-il, ont eu une issue favorable, on le devra principalement aux dispositions conciliantes qui se sont manifestées de toutes parts.

M. le Plénipotentiaire de France ne veut pas exagérer les résultats auxquels la Conférence est arrivée. Il croit cependant qu'on ne saurait équitablement en contester la valeur, car les Cabinets représentés dans cette réunion sont parvenus à prévenir le conflit qui était près d'éclater en Orient, et à écarter ainsi une cause de complications pour l'Europe. M. le Marquis de Lavalette espère en outre, avec M. le Prince de Metternich, que l'exemple donné par la Conférence ne sera pas perdu, et que l'œuvre pacifique accomplie en vertu et dans l'esprit du Protocole du 14 Avril, 1856, restera comme un précédent qui sera de plus en plus invoqué dans les dissensions qu'une délibération commune peut aplanir.

Tous les Plénipotentiaires sont unanimes pour exprimer ce vœu, et la Conférence ayant atteint le but de sa mission se déclare dissoute.

Fait à Paris, le dix-huit Février, mil huit cent soixante-neuf.

(Suivent les signatures.)

Annex to Protocol No. 7 of February 18, 1869.

M. T. Delyanni to M. de Lavalette.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 25 Janvier 1869.
6 Février,

MON prédécesseur, M. P. Delyanni, m'a remis la lettre que vous avez bien voulu lui adresser le 20 Janvier, ainsi que la Déclaration y annexée en copie des Plénipotentiaires des six grandes Puissances Européennes réunis en Conférence à Paris afin d'examiner, dans un esprit de conciliation, le différend survenu entre la Grèce et la Turquie.

Le résultat des délibérations de la Conférence a été accueilli, je ne saurais vous le dissimuler, M. le Ministre, avec un sentiment de pénible émotion par le peuple Hellène tout entier, et la crise ministérielle s'étant prolongée pendant plusieurs jours, a fait qu'une réponse n'a pu être donnée dans cet intervalle à la lettre de votre Excellence. Le Cabinet dont j'ai l'honneur de faire partie s'est fait un devoir, aussitôt constitué, de prendre en sérieuse considération le contenu de la Déclaration et de votre communication.

Le Gouvernement du Roi a vu avec regret que le Ministre de Sa Majesté à Paris n'a pu prendre part aux travaux de la Conférence par suite de la position d'infériorité qui lui a été faite vis-à-vis du Plénipotentiaire de Turquie.

En présence de l'unanimité des six grandes Puissances Européennes et de votre déclaration que leurs Plénipotentiaires, en dégageant le débat des questions de fait, n'ont eu en vue que de rechercher les règles de conduite qui doivent présider aux rapports entre la Grèce et la Turquie, je m'empresse de vous informer que le Gouvernement du Roi adhère aux principes généraux de jurisprudence internationale contenus dans la Déclaration de la Conférence, et qu'il est décidé d'y conformer son attitude.

En priant votre Excellence de vouloir bien porter cette adhésion à la connaissance de la Conférence, j'aime à espérer que les six grandes Puissances, appréciant les difficultés de la situation, tiendront compte à la Grèce de sa résolution de déférer à leurs vœux et de contribuer pour sa part au maintien du repos général.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria-Hungary ;

" " France ;

" " Great Britain ;

" " Italy ;

" " Prussia and the North German Confederation ;

" " Russia ;

" " Turkey ;

The Secretary to the Conference.

THE President of the Conference having received the reply of the Hellenic Government to the communication which he had been charged to make to it in accordance with the decisions adopted in common, the Plenipotentiaries have met to-day to take cognizance of this document.

The Marquis de Lavalette opens the sitting by reading the letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, dated the ^{25th January} 6th February. He adds that the French Minister at Athens has transmitted to him a Proclamation to the Greek people in which the new Cabinet explains its resolve to accede to the Declaration of the Conference. The Marquis de Lavalette has been likewise informed by the Greek Minister at Paris of the existence of a circular addressed to the Hellenic Agents abroad, and which M. Rangabé had evinced his intention of communicating to each of the Plenipotentiaries. This communication not having been made as yet, the French Plenipotentiary does not think there is any need to take it into consideration ; nor does he think that the Conference should enter into an examination of the Proclamation, which has not been transmitted by the Hellenic Cabinet. The Conference has thus only to consider the answer of the Cabinet of Athens, and to decide if that document may be considered as constituting a complete adhesion to the Declaration of the 20th of January, and such as to put an end to the difference between Turkey and Greece.

The Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary says that he would have liked to know that the circular did not contain any reservations of a nature to modify the opinion of the Powers with regard to the reply of Greece. If, however, this circular is conceived in the same spirit as the Proclamation, and merely contains expressions of regret, the Prince de Metternich sees no reason to take it into account, as it could not exercise any influence on the judgment which the Conference is called upon to pronounce.

The Russian Plenipotentiary states that the circular in question has not, in point of fact, been communicated in time sufficient to become a subject of deliberation, whence he concludes that the Greek Minister did not himself attach any practical value to it.

The English Plenipotentiary asks whether it may be considered as certain that the Greek Representative has received notice of the meeting of the Conference, and that he has been enabled to make his communication before the sitting ; in a word, whether one may consider that he has knowingly abstained from giving effect to his first intention.

The Plenipotentiaries of France and Russia reply in the affirmative.

The English Plenipotentiary says that the Conference must consequently confine itself to the question whether the letter from M. Delyanni to the Marquis de Lavalette is or is not in conformity with the wish expressed in the collective Declaration.

The Marquis de Lavalette is of opinion that if the Greek Minister had thought it his duty to make the communication which he had announced, the Plenipotentiaries would, in order to conform with the rule hitherto followed, themselves have had to examine it, avoiding all discussion, however, of questions laid down as beyond the limits of their competence. The French Plenipotentiary had remarked this to M. Rangabé, and had called his particular attention to the difficulty which he would create for Greece if, by producing a fresh document after M. Delyanni's answer, he should make the Cabinet of Athens appear to wish to withdraw with one hand what it granted with the other. The Conference, adds the Marquis de Lavalette, has on its part no object in requiring the production of a document which might renew fruitless discussions. The Conference had desired to remove incidents which were at the present time a source of anxiety to the friends of peace in the East. Confined within these limits by the agreement of their Cabinets, the Plenipotentiaries have attained their object, and may fairly flatter themselves that they have rendered Greece an important service. The Proclamation of the Hellenic Ministry affords, as it were, a proof of this in every line, for it testifies in a

manner more striking than any Power would have ventured to assert, how little the Greeks were in a position to sustain a war with Turkey. The French Plenipotentiary also looks upon the situation of Greece, as represented by the Proclamation, as a proof of the moderation and wisdom which the Ottoman Porte has evinced by abandoning the idea of itself vindicating its wrongs by force and by its deference to the pacific counsels of the Powers. In view of this statement of the condition of the Hellenic Kingdom, justice should also be done to the new Ministers who, by accepting the Declaration, have succeeded in averting the perils which threatened their country should an armed struggle have been entered upon. According to the Marquis de Lavalette, the Conference should consider the resolution itself without stopping to discuss the complaints with which it is surrounded; and on his part he is pleased to see in it an earnest testimony of the moderated tone of feeling which has taken place in Greece.

The Count de Stackelberg adds that His Majesty the King of the Hellenes has given proof of great energy in recent events, and his firmness is also a guarantee of the loyalty with which Greece will conform itself to the engagements it has undertaken.

The French Plenipotentiary declares that His Majesty King George has in fact acted with decision in not allowing himself to be discouraged either by the difficulties which he encountered in finding new Ministers, or to be intimidated by manifestations by means of which it had been hoped to lead him to resist the wishes of Europe. The Marquis de Lavalette agrees, therefore, entirely with the sentiment expressed by the Russian Plenipotentiary, and with the hope he entertains for the future with regard to the calm and firm attitude of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes in this crisis. The French Plenipotentiary considers that the responsibility assumed by the Greek Minister in not making the communication at first announced is likewise a proof of the increased stability of ideas of foresight and wisdom at Athens.

The Italian Plenipotentiary says that after the foregoing explanations nothing remains but to come to a determination regarding the reply of the Hellenic Government, which is the only document of which the Conference has cognizance, and to decide whether that reply fulfils the conditions required.

All the Plenipotentiaries agree that it gives rise to no particular remark.

Consequently, on the proposal of the Chevalier Nigra, the Conference takes cognizance of the adhesion of Greece to the principles laid down in the Declaration of the 20th of January, 1869.

It is agreed that the letter from M. Delyanni to the Marquis de Lavalette, dated January 25 shall be annexed to the Protocol. February 6

The Conference at the same time charges its President to thank the Courts of Constantinople and Athens for the proof of deference they have shown by listening to the advice tendered to them.

In conformity with the terms of the Marquis de Lavalette's despatch to the Hellenic Government, the Conference finally decides that diplomatic relations are *ipso jure* re-established between Turkey and Greece by the adhesion, now confirmed, of the Cabinet of Athens.

The French Plenipotentiary asks the Turkish Plenipotentiary if he thinks that the Porte would be disposed to accept the principle of simultaneousness for the actual re-establishment of the Legations, and to undertake to send its Minister to Athens as soon as it should be informed, through the medium of the French Embassy, that the Hellenic Agent is on his way to Constantinople.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary replies that he has informed his Government of the suggestion which had already been made, in former interviews, by the Marquis de Lavalette on this subject, but that he has not yet received the instructions which he is expecting.

The Italian Plenipotentiary says that the Conference would render an additional service to Turkey and Greece if it used its good offices to facilitate the settlement of any difficulty on this last point, and he proposes to charge the French Plenipotentiary to sound the two Courts of Constantinople and Athens in order to fix, in concert with them, the day on which the respective Ministers should start for their posts.

The Marquis de Lavalette declares that he is ready to second the wish of the Conference, and that without loss of time he will instruct the Emperor's Diplomatic Agents in Turkey and Greece to support the combination in question, and to facilitate its execution.

The Marquis de Lavalette then gives an account of a representation made by a deputation of the principal Cretan refugees at Athens to the French Minister in Greece. These delegates of the emigration were charged to declare the unanimous wish of their fellow-countrymen to return to Crete, provided they could make sure of not being

molested on their return. The French Plenipotentiary says that he has no doubt of the benevolent feelings of the Porte as far as regards the treatment in store for the Candiote families. He would, however, wish to receive from the Turkish Plenipotentiary the assurance that the Cretan emigrants will not be called to account or threatened for their participation in the events in Candia. He moreover remarks that this question does not imply any idea of interference in the relations of the Sultan with his subjects. The Marquis de Lavalette adds, that the object of the Conference is merely to know for certain that the families for whose repatriation it requests facilities, and whom it thus encourages to return to Crete, will not be exposed to the danger of persecution and annoyance on the part of the Ottoman authorities.

Djemil Pasha replies that not one of the refugees already returned to Crete has ever been molested; that the Porte itself strives to hasten their return; that its feelings are those only of commiseration for the unhappy families who left their country during the insurrection; and that, warranted by what has taken place with regard to those who have already left Greece, they may, on their return, rely on every security for their persons and property.

The Conference takes cognizance of the declaration made by the Ottoman Plenipotentiary.

The French Plenipotentiary asks Djemil Pasha whether the Porte is ready to recommence the work of repatriation, and whether it will soon be in a position to receive in Greek ports the families who wish at once to return to Crete.

The Turkish Plenipotentiary refers to the fact that before the breaking off of relations with Greece, the Ottoman Government had chartered vessels, with a view to effecting, at its own expense, the transport of the Candiote emigrants, and that those measures had been put off solely in consequence of the suspension of diplomatic relations. He adds, that he has referred to Constantinople the question which the French Plenipotentiary had already put to him on this subject, and that he has no doubt that the Porte will hasten to use all the means at its disposal to effect the repatriation of the emigrants.

All matters for deliberation having been fully discussed, the Prince de Metternich requests that he may be allowed to thank the President in the name of the Conference for the enlightened and loyal manner in which he has directed its labours, and he adds that to him its successful issue must in a great measure be attributed. The Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary congratulates himself on having taken part in an Assembly which has been distinguished by a continuous and remarkable unison of principles and pacific intentions, and he expresses the hope that this Conference will serve as a wholesome precedent.

The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, Russia and Turkey, add their thanks to those of the Prince de Metternich, and have pleasure in bearing testimony to the spirit of conciliation and the enlightened views which the Plenipotentiary of France has brought to bear in this negotiation.

The Plenipotentiaries at the same time express their satisfaction at the way in which the Secretary to the Conference, who was entrusted with the drawing-up of the Protocols, has acquitted himself of his task.

The Marquis de Lavalette expresses his sincere thanks for the kind appreciation of his colleagues, and for the support he has received from them in the prosecution of a common object. If, he adds, the labours of the Conference have had a favourable issue, it is principally due to the conciliatory disposition evinced on all sides.

The French Plenipotentiary does not wish to exaggerate the results which the Conference has attained. He thinks, however, that its value cannot fairly be contested, for the Cabinets represented at that Assembly have succeeded in preventing the conflict which was ready to break out in the East, and in thus removing a cause of complications in Europe. The Marquis de Lavalette furthermore joins the Prince de Metternich in hoping that the example set by the Conference will not be thrown away, and that the work of peace accomplished by virtue of and in the spirit of the Protocol of the 14th April, 1856, will stand as a precedent which will be more and more invoked in such differences as can be settled by a common deliberation.

All the Plenipotentiaries are unanimous in expressing this wish, and the Conference having accomplished the object of its mission declares itself dissolved.

Done at Paris, the 18th of February, 1869.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Annex to Protocol No. 7 of February 18, 1869.

M. T. Delyanni to M. de Lavalette.

M. le Ministre,

Athens, ^{January 25} ~~February 6~~ 1869.

MY predecessor, M. P. Delyanni, has handed to me the letter which you were good enough to address to him on the 20th of January, together with the Declaration annexed thereto in copy, of the Plenipotentiaries of the six Great European Powers, who met in Conference at Paris, for the purpose of examining, in a spirit of conciliation, the difference which has arisen between Greece and Turkey.

I cannot conceal from you, M. le Ministre, that the result of the deliberations of the Conference has been received with a feeling of painful emotion by the entire Hellenic people, and the Ministerial crisis having been prolonged for several days has prevented an answer being given, during this interval, to your Excellency's letter. The Cabinet of which I have the honour to form a part has made it its duty, as soon as it was constituted, to take into serious communication the contents of the Declaration and of your communication.

The King's Government have seen with regret that Her Majesty's Minister at Paris was unable to take part in the labours of the Conference in consequence of the position of inferiority which was assigned to him as contrasted with the Plenipotentiary of Turkey.

In view of the unanimity of the six Great European Powers, and of your declaration, that their Plenipotentiaries, in relieving the debate from questions of fact, only propose to seek those rules of conduct which should prevail in the relations between Greece and Turkey, I hasten to inform you that the King's Government adhere to the general principles of international jurisprudence contained in the Declaration of the Conference, and have decided to conform their attitude to them.

In requesting your Excellency to be good enough to bring this adhesion to the knowledge of the Conference, I have pleasure in hoping that the six Great Powers, appreciating the difficulties of the situation, will give Greece credit for her resolution to defer to their wishes, and to contribute on her part to the maintenance of the general peace.

I take, &c.

(Signed) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

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DECLARATION

FOR THE

ADMISSION DUTY FREE INTO GREAT BRITAIN
AND THE ZOLLVEREIN,

OF

PATTERNS AND SAMPLES

IMPORTED BY

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

Signed at Berlin, April 1, 1869.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1869.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

DECLARATION for the Admission duty free into Great Britain
and the Zollverein, of Patterns and Samples imported by
Commercial Travellers.

Signed at Berlin, April 1, 1869.

Declaration.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the North German Confederation, and the President of the Federal Office, in the name of the Presidency of the German Customs and Commercial Union, being duly authorized to that effect, hereby declare that articles liable to duty, serving as patterns and samples, which are introduced into Great Britain by commercial travellers of the Zollverein States, or into the Zollverein by commercial travellers of Great Britain, shall henceforth be admitted free of duty, subject to the following formalities requisite to insure their being re-exported or placed in bond:—

1. The officers of Customs at any port or place at which the patterns and samples may be imported, shall ascertain the amount of duty chargeable thereon.

That amount must either be deposited by the commercial traveller at the Custom-house in money, or ample security must be given for it.

2. For the purpose of identification each separate pattern or sample will, as far as possible, be marked, free of expense, by the affixing of a stamp, or by means of a seal, or leaden seal, being attached to it.

3. A permit or certificate shall be given to the importer which shall contain—

(a.) A list of the patterns or samples imported, specifying the nature of the goods, and also such particular marks as may be proper for the purpose of identification;

(b.) A statement of the duty chargeable on the patterns or samples, as also whether the amount was deposited in money, or whether security was given for it;

Deklaration.

DIE Unterzeichneten, der ausserordentliche und bevollmächtigte Botschafter Ihrer Grossbritannischer Majestät bei dem Norddeutschen Bunde, und der Präsident des Bundeskanzler-Amtes im Namen des Präsidiums des Deutschen Zoll- und Handels-Vereins, erklären auf Grund erhaltener Ermächtigung hierdurch, dass eingangszollpflichtige Gegenstände, welche als Muster oder Proben dienen und in Grossbritannien von Handlungsreisenden der Zollvereinsstaaten, oder in den Zollverein von Britischen Handlungsreisenden eingeführt werden, fortan unter den nachfolgenden zur Sicherstellung ihrer Wiederausfuhr oder Niederlegung in einem Packhofe erforderlichen Förmlichkeiten zollfrei zugelassen werden sollen:—

1. Das Zollamt des Hafens oder Platzes über welchen die Muster oder Proben eingehen, ermittelt den Betrag des auf denselben haftenden Eingangszolls.

Dieser Betrag ist von dem Handlungsreisenden bei dem Zollamt entweder baar niederzulegen, oder vollständig sicher zu stellen.

2. Zum Zwecke der Festhaltung der Identität werden die einzelnen Musterstücke, soweit es angeht, durch aufgedruckte Stempel, oder durch angehängte Siegel oder Bleie kostenfrei bezeichnet.

3. Das Abfertigungspapier enthält—

(a.) Ein Verzeichniss der eingebrachten Musterstücke, in welchem die Gattung der Waare und solche Merkmale sich angegeben finden, die zur Festhaltung der Identität geeignet sind;

(b.) Die Angabe des auf den Mustern oder Proben haftenden Eingangszolls, so wie darüber, ob derselbe baar niedergelegt oder sicher gestellt worden ist;

(c.) A statement relative to the manner in which the patterns or samples were marked;

(d.) The appointment of a period, which at the utmost must not exceed twelve months, at the expiration of which, unless it is proved that the patterns or samples have been previously re-exported or placed in bond, the amount of duty deposited will be carried to the public account, or the amount recovered under the security given.

4. Patterns or samples may also be re-exported through any other Custom-house than the one through which they were imported.

5. If before the expiration of the appointed time (3, d), the patterns or samples should be presented at the Custom-house of any port or place for the purpose of re-exportation, or being placed in bond, the officers at such port or place must satisfy themselves by examination whether the articles which are brought to them are the same as those for which the permit of entry was granted. If there are no objections in this respect, the officers will certify the re-exportation or deposit in bond, and will refund the duty which had been deposited, or will take the necessary steps for discharging the security.

In witness whereof the Undersigned have signed the present Declaration, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Berlin, the 1st day of April, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.

(c.) Die Angabe über die Art der Bezeichnung;

(d.) Die Bestimmung der, höchstens auf zwölf Monate zu bemessenden Frist, nach deren Ablaufe, soweit nicht vorher die Wiederausfuhr der Muster oder Proben nach dem Auslande oder deren Niederlegung in einem Packhofe nachgewiesen wird, der niedergelegte Eingangszoll verrechnet oder der Zoll aus der bestellten Sicherheit eingezogen werden soll.

4. Die Wiederausfuhr der Muster oder Proben kann auch über ein anderes Zollamt erfolgen, als dasjenige über welches die Einfuhr bewirkt war.

5. Werden vor Ablauf der gestellten Frist (3, d), die Muster oder Proben einem zur Ertheilung der abfertigung befugten Amte zum Zweck der Wiederausfuhr oder der Niederlegung in einem Packhofe vorgeführt, so hat dieses Amt sich durch die vorzunehmende Prüfung davon zu überzeugen, ob ihm dieselben Gegenstände vorgeführt worden sind, welche bei der Eingangsabfertigung vorgelegen haben. So weit in dieses beziehung keine Bedenken entstehen, bescheinigt das Amt die Ausfuhr oder Niederlegung und erstattet den bei der Einbringung niedergelegten Eingangszoll oder trifft wegen Freigabe der bestellten Sicherheit die erforderliche Einleitung.

Zu Urkund dessen haben die Unterzeichneten die gegenwärtige Erklärung vollzogen, und mit ihrem Wappensiegel versehen.

Geschehen zu Berlin, den 1ten April, 1869.

(L.S.) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.
(L.S.) DELBRUCK.



DECLARATION for the Admission duty
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[*Price 1d.*]

